

THE BUILDERS OF CANADA







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THE DEATH OF WOLFE ON THE PLAINS OF ABRAHAM, QUEBEC

Builders of Canada

— FROM —

Cartier to Laurier

BY

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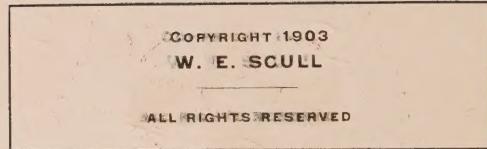
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"Stories of New France," "Stories from Canadian History," "Marguerite de Roberval," "Canada's Sons on Kopje and Veldt," "Life of Earl Roberts," "Presidents of the United States, from Pierce to McKinley."

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GUY CARLETON, LORD DORCHESTER



ROBERT DE LA SALLE, FAMOUS EXPLORER



JACQUES CARTIER

SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN

PREFACE.

IN attempting to give an account of the Makers of Canada it has been found impossible to include the names of all the prominent men who have figured on the stage of history in New France and in British North America. In the case of such a prominent soldier as Montcalm, so much of his life is woven into the story of Wolfe that it was deemed unnecessary to devote a separate sketch to him. Again, in dealing with the men of a more recent age, it was thought best to consider only those men who have played their part in the history of the Dominion as a whole and, therefore, such prominent Canadians as Principal Grant, Sir Daniel Wilson, Sir William Dawson and others have been omitted. It was deemed wise to include all the Premiers of the Dominion, for, although several of them were men of comparatively slight importance, their position and the questions that were associated with their names make them, as it were, national figures.

The studies of the early part will be found to fully present the Romance of Canadian History, and the writers in dealing with the French period of our history, have, as far as possible, kept to the fore the picturesque in the lives under consideration.

In treating more recent history, as some of the men studied are still living and many of them are personally remembered by living Canadians, it was thought wise, whenever possible, to give extracts, at some length, from their letters or diaries or speeches that would let them reveal themselves.

The authors of this volume are all experienced writers, and in every case in sympathy with the subjects that they treat. Agnes Maule Machar, the author of several of the sketches, has for many years been an ardent student of the early history of Canada, and has made an exhaustive study of the lives of such men as Champlain and La Salle. The writers of the lives

of the more recent **Makers of Canada** will be found to be men who have been intimately associated, either personally or in a public way, with the careers of the subjects of their sketches. In the case of the study of the Rt.-Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the greatest of living Canadian statesmen, the publishers have been fortunate enough to secure a sympathetic and unbiased study from the pen of Louis Honoré Fréchette, a great Liberal compatriot and the ablest writer French Canada has yet produced.

The publishers have to thank the Copp Clark Company, of Toronto, for kindly permitting them to reproduce several of the sketches which have previously appeared in the editor's *Stories from Canadian History*.

In every case where the author of the article is not named the sketch has been written by the editor.

THE PUBLISHERS.

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CHAPTER I.

JACQUES CARTIER.

By AGNES MAULÉ MACHAR.

Canadian History Begins with Jacques Cartier—The Time of His Birth Uncertain—A Renowned Sailor—Sails to Canada in 1534—His Departure from St. Malo—Reaches Newfoundland—His Description of the Country—First Contact with the Indians—Takes Possession of the Country for France—Returns to France—Prepares for a Second Voyage—A Stormy Passage—In Sight of Stadacona (Quebec)—Cartier's Reception by Donnacona—Sails up the River to Hochelaga (Montreal)—His Reception at Hochelaga—Back at Stadacona—Winters in Canada—Hardships and Scurvy—Sails to Old France Taking a Number of Indians—Undertakes a Third Voyage—Fails to Found a Colony—Returns in Disgust to France—Honors and Riches His Reward—His Death.

CANADIAN history properly begins with the name of Jacques Cartier, for, though he made no permanent settlement in this country, the accounts of his famous voyages and of his efforts to found a colony on the banks of the St. Lawrence did much to draw future discoverers and adventurers to the northern part of the American continent.

Of the life of this great sailor but little is known. Even the date of his birth is mere conjecture. The date usually given is December 31, 1494; but it is much more probable that he was born in the year 1491, between June 7 and December 23.

Before attempting his first celebrated voyage of discovery to Canada he was already a noted mariner, having made, it is stated, no fewer than three voyages to Newfoundland. It is likewise supposed that he had seen service with the Portuguese government, and that, in the year 1527, he visited Brazil, but of the period of his life before 1534 little or nothing is definitely known.

Of his voyages to Canada, however, we have several excellent accounts, and no man among the early explorers is better known than this celebrated mariner of St. Malo.

The bright spring sunshine lighted up the gray walls and battlements of the rugged old sea-port town of St. Malo, on the coast of Brittany, when.

April 20, 1534, two little ships slowly glided away from its harbor bound on a long and adventurous voyage. They were manned by a hundred and twenty men, and their commander was Jacques Cartier, a captain specially chosen by King Francis. The king hoped that he would be able to discover the coveted short route to China and Cathay, and possibly to discover the gold and silver of which the French had heard in South America. He expected, also, that Cartier would open up new channels for trade, and secure the possession of part, at least, of the great new continent, to which, as he truly said, France had as good a right as Spain and Portugal, who wanted to have it all to themselves.

The little expedition sailed across the wide Atlantic, reaching Cape Bonavista in Newfoundland about the middle of May. From thence, passing on to the Isle of Birds, as the Portuguese had called it on account of the multitude of birds there, they arrived at the Straits of Belle Isle, and after some detention through bad weather, they explored the cold and sterile shores of Labrador and Newfoundland.

Cartier thought that this barren and uninviting land might be taken for the country assigned to Cain; and considered one acre of the Magdalen Islands, which he reached next, as worth the whole of Newfoundland. He had much to tell of the birds he found there, as well as of "beasts as large as oxen, and possessing great tusks like elephants," which, when he approached, leaped suddenly into the sea. He described, too, the beautiful trees and delicious fruits, as well as the wild corn, blossoming peas (*vetches*), currants, strawberries, roses and sweet-smelling herbs.

Cartier thought the waves were very heavy and strong among these islands. This made him think that there was probably an opening between Newfoundland and Cape Breton, and he began to look for a passage by which he might sail westward into the heart of the country. As the sailors rowed their boats close in shore, coasting along bays and inlets, they could sometimes see the naked savages moving about on the beach, or paddling their light birch canoes; after a time they managed to hold some intercourse and traffic with them, by means of signs and little gifts of hatchets, knives, beads and toys, often having as many as fifty canoes about them. The

Indians were delighted to exchange their fish for the knives and hatchets which they coveted so much, and a red cap for their chief sent them away overjoyed.

Cartier tried in vain all the little inlets and rivers opening out of the Bay of Chaleurs (heats), to which he gave this name because he found there both the weather and the water so warm. Failing to find any passage like that by which he had entered the Gulf, he sailed east and northward along the coast of Gaspé Bay. Here he landed and set up a large wooden cross, thirty feet high, carved with three *fleurs-de-lis*, and bearing the inscription in French, "Long live the King of France!" By this means he formally took possession of the land for the King of France.

In order to impress the savages the more, the French knelt around the cross, and made signs, by pointing to the sky, to show that it was connected with the salvation of man. This done, Cartier and his men returned to their ships and were visited afterwards by many of the Indians, including the Chief, his brother and three sons. The chief showed them by expressive signs that he did not like their setting up the cross on his territory without his permission, but when they had induced him to enter their ships and look at the hatchets and knives that the white men had for trading, Cartier easily persuaded him that the cross had been set up merely as a beacon to point the way to the harbor.

Cartier treated the chief hospitably, expressing a great desire to make friends with his people, and promising to return, bringing many useful articles made of iron to exchange for furs. Two of the chief's sons were persuaded to accompany him to France, putting on with great satisfaction the new clothes that Cartier gave them, and throwing the old ones to their friends, who came out to take leave of them, bringing farewell gifts of fish in their canoes. Then with good will expressed on all sides, the French captain sailed away, exhorting the Indians to respect the cross he had set up on the shore.

Head winds and storms prevented Cartier from making any further discoveries on this voyage. He just missed finding his way into the St. Lawrence at Anticosti, supposing, without full examination, that the gulf

there was a great bay. When he arrived home in September, his account of his adventures was eagerly listened to. The two young Indians he had brought with him were objects of great interest to the Bretons, and were taught to speak French, so that they might answer the questions which were asked on all sides.

Cartier received great honors for his discoveries, and many people in France were most anxious that he should make a second voyage in order to extend them.

In spite of opposition they succeeded in organizing another and a better equipped expedition than the first. Extensive preparations were made during the winter, and on a bright spring day—May 16, 1535—all St. Malo was astir to see the great religious ceremonial which celebrated the departure of the little fleet. Down in the bay rode at anchor “La Grande Hermine,” a large-sized ship for those days, with the two smaller vessels which were to complete the flotilla. In these were to go, besides the crews, several members of the French *noblesse*. And in the old cathedral were assembled the officers and men to hear mass and to receive absolution and the paternal blessing of the bishop on their perilous enterprise; while the Breton wives, mothers and maidens, in their picturesque costumes, looked on in mingled pride and anxiety. Three days later the flotilla set sail for the setting sun.

Scarcely, however, had they lost sight of the Breton cliffs when the ships were scattered by a violent storm. It was July before they were collected at the Straits of Belle Isle, from whence they coasted along the bleak shore of Labrador till they entered a small bay opposite the Island of Anticosti. It was the *fête* of St. Lawrence when they entered the gulf, and Cartier bestowed that name on the bay, from whence it afterwards extended to the whole Gulf and thence to the noble river, then called by Cartier the River of Hochelaga. The St. Lawrence, therefore, keeps in its name a record of the very day when Cartier’s expedition first floated on its waters, after its long tossing on a stormy sea.

Piloted by the young Indians who had accompanied Cartier to France, the French ships sailed up the great unknown river, on which no white wings save those of the sea-gulls had ever appeared before. The

CHAPTER II.

SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN.

By AGNES MAULE MACHAR.

Champlain a Favorite with the King—His Travels in the West Indies and Mexico—Chosen by De Chastes for an Expedition to Canada—Sails for the New World—Visits Quebec and Mont Royal—Learns of the Great Inland Seas—Returns to France—Sails for Acadia—Winters on the St. Croix—Sufferings of the Colony—Settles at Port Royal (Annapolis)—The Romantic Life of the Colony—Port Royal Abandoned—Champlain at Quebec—Builds a Wooden Fortress—Champlain Assists Indian Allies Against the Iroquois—Visits Lake Champlain and Lake George—A Fight with the Indians—Champlain Sails for France—Back in Canada—Exploring the West—Wounded in Battle with the Iroquois—Descends the Lachine Rapids—Goes to France in the Colony's Interests—In Canada Once More—A Wild Goose Chase up the Ottawa—Journeys Through the Country of the Hurons—Spends the Winter in the Wilderness Near Kingston—Puts Forth His Energy to Build up New France—Brings His Wife to Canada—The Jesuit Fathers Reach Quebec—The Company of the “Hundred Associates” Formed—David Kirke Attacks the Colony—The English Flag Floats over Champlain’s Fortress—Champlain Taken to London—Quebec Restored to the French—Champlain Dies on Christmas Day, 1635.

SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN, the most picturesque of the early makers of Canada, was born at the sea-port town of Brouage on the Bay of Biscay in 1567.

By profession he was a naval officer, but had seen much service on land, and had fought with distinction for his king in Brittany.

When De Chastes, the good old Governor of Dieppe, went to court to beg from King Henry his patent of authority in Canada, he found there young Samuel de Champlain, a great favorite with the king on account of his brave deeds in Brittany. His adventurous spirit had already led him to make a hazardous voyage of discovery to the West Indies; and notwithstanding the determination of the jealous Spaniards to keep out foreigners on pain of death, he managed to visit Panama and the principal islands, and to penetrate as far as the city of Mexico. He brought back with him a journal of his travels, illustrated with colored sketches of his own, and this, with his

lively narrative of the things he had seen, excited great interest at court. De Chastes was delighted with the young captain, whom he felt to be the very man he needed to help him in his enterprise, and begged him to accept a post in his new company. This the eager explorer, securing the king's consent, was delighted to do. Champlain was soon ready to start with Pontgravé on a preliminary exploring tour in two small vessels which—small as they seemed—carried in them the hope of the New France, soon to arise in the wilderness.

As they passed through the Straits of Belle Isle and sailed up the Gulf, Champlain's quick, observant eye noted all he saw, with an attention that stood him in good stead in after years. The great shaggy hills, wooded from base to summit, unfolded themselves in a long succession of grand curves, as the Gulf narrowed into the river—filling him with admiration and a desire to go up and possess this goodly land. He noted the lonely little niche among the rugged, fir-tufted rocks that guard the mouth of the sombre Saguenay—the site of the abandoned settlement of Tadousac. Passing by the Isle aux Coudres, and the Island of Orleans, Champlain's eye marked with keen interest the commanding rock of Quebec, his future fortress, and the Gibraltar of Canada.

Sailing onward still between more gently sloping shores and leaving behind them the grand vista of mountain summits that encompass Quebec, they followed the winding river till they reached the spot where, sixty-eight years before, Cartier had found the Indian town of Hochelaga, lying at the foot of Mount Royal. The beautiful hill and its glorious view of forest, river and mountain were unaltered ; but the Indian village had disappeared. By ravages of war or pestilence, the earlier Mohawk population had been swept away, and only a few wandering Algonquins, of different race and lineage, were now to be seen. Like Cartier, Champlain tried to force his way up the white flashing rapids of Lachine ; but their resistless sweep was too much for paddle and pole and even for Champlain's determination ; and the attempt had to be given up. His Indian assistants to console him, drew on the deck of his ship a rude map of the upper portion of the great river, with the rapids and islands, and the chain of sea-like lakes at its eastern

extremity. They gave him, too, some confused description of the grand cataract of Niagara, mentioned for the first time in his great map as a "very high rapid, in descending which many kinds of fish are stunned."

Champlain, unsatisfied, was obliged to return to France, preparing on his way a chart and narrative of his voyage and observations for the benefit of the king and De Chastes, the patron of the enterprise. But the good old governor, who desired to devote his last days to the conversion of the Indians, had died during his absence. King Henry, however, was much interested in the story, and ere long a new aspirant appeared for the honor of founding the colony. This was the Sieur de Monts, a Huguenot gentleman holding a high position at Court. He received the title of Lieutenant-General in Acadie, with vice-regal powers and a monopoly of the fur-traffic in the large region then first called by that name, including a large part of Canada and the Northern United States.

The fur-traders of Normandy were naturally discontented at losing the privileges which they had previously enjoyed; but De Monts wisely removed their jealousy by making them his partners in the enterprise. And so, in spite of the opposition of the king's minister, Sully, who had little faith in the settlement of such a savage wilderness, the expedition was organized, including some of the chief merchants of St. Malo, Rouen, Dieppe and Rochelle. Four large ships were fitted out, two of them as a coast-guard, to seize all other trading vessels, while the other two were to carry the colonists to their new home.

Unhappily M. de Monts—able, experienced and patriotic as he was—continued to act on the mistaken plan of taking emigrants by force from the vagabonds and criminals of the community. But he had also eager and chivalrous volunteers of the noble blood of France, impelled either by love of adventure or the desire to restore fortunes ruined by the civil wars. Some, too, were glad of the chance of escaping from the increasing pressure of royal power, so intolerable to the proud and haughty barons of that age.

One of these, the Baron de Poutrincourt, was a leading spirit in the expedition, inspired by Champlain's glowing descriptions, and anxious to settle with his family in a country where royal prerogative seemed as yet

the winding river, here narrowed to a mile in width. This spot, at once commanding and picturesque, his observant eye had long since chosen for his intended fortress.

There was no Indian village there. All was silent and deserted. The bare and lonely rock overlooked an unbroken solitude where to-day the visitor's eye looks out upon piles of buildings and stately spires, rows of shipping and darting steamboats, upon a wide stretch of long cornfields and meadows dotted with white cottages and gleaming villages clustered round their church steeples, sprinkled over the purple distance, while all around closes the vista of gray misty hills, which are the only unchanged features.

But the view of dark unbroken forest, winding river and purple hills was a charming one even then; and, here, in the shadow of the great rock, Champlain decided to found his settlement. The place was called by the wandering Algonquins, Quebec or *Kebec*—a word meaning a strait—and Champlain kept the old name. It happens thus that the traveler who enters Canada by the St. Lawrence, finds in the names of the first three cities on his way, Quebec, Montreal and Kingston, memorials of the three races which have successively held the country in the order of their succession.

Champlain was not, at first, so ambitious as to plant his eyrie on the frowning height above, but set his men at once to clear away the walnut trees that covered the strip of land at its foot. In a short time they had built a sort of wooden fortress surrounded by a loop-holed gallery, and enclosing three buildings ready for occupation. A tall dove-cote like a belfry, rose from the courtyard, and a moat, with two or three primitive cannon, completed its defenses; a magazine being built close by. Champlain had his garden, too, and enjoyed cultivating his roses as well as his vegetables, where now the Champlain market presents its busy scene, and the little weather-beaten church of *Notre Dame des Victoires* still stands as a memorial of the early days of Quebec.

The only misadventure during the building of the fort was a conspiracy which had nearly cut short Champlain's career and the history of the settlement. The Spanish and Basque traders at Tadousac made use of a traitorous locksmith named Duval, to persuade most of the colonists to betray

CHAPTER III.

PÈRE BRÉBŒUF.

Père Brébœuf a Type of the Best Missionary Spirit in Early Canada—Champlain Brings a Number of Missionaries to Quebec—Jean de Brébœuf of a Noble Family of Normandy—Anxious to Go to the Huron Mission—The Hurons Visit Quebec as Fur Traders—The Missionaries Anxious to Go West with Them—Forced to Spend the Winter in Quebec—Their Desires Gratified in the Following Year—The Arduous Journey to the Huron Country—Brébœuf Welcomed by His Old Pupils—The Savages Build the “Black Robes” a Fitting Residence—The Hurons Amazed at the Striking Clock of the Jesuits—The Indian Sorcerers Stir Up Enmity Against the Missionaries—A Severe Drought Attributed to the Cross on the Mission-House—A Plague of Small-Pox Carries off Many of the Hurons—Brébœuf’s Noble Work in this Trying Time—The “Black Robes” Held Responsible for the Plague—Their Death Decreed—Brébœuf’s Courageous Conduct—His Effort to Found a Mission in the Neutral Nation—The Iroquois Invade the Country of the Hurons—The Destruction of the Hurons—The Martyrdom of Brébœuf—The Influence of the Jesuits on the Life of the Colony of New France.

IN a book dealing with the makers of Canada, it is necessary to consider the early missionaries, who labored to so much purpose among the Indians. That New France was able to maintain an existence during a great part of the seventeenth century was largely due to these noble and self-sacrificing men who did much to hold the Indians in check. But little is known of the early life of any of them. It is not necessary that anything should be known of their parentage; friends, the world, life itself, they were ready to sacrifice for the propagation of Christianity. Several of these men would make worthy subjects for study, but Père Brébœuf is chosen as typical of the best missionary spirit in early Canada.

In the latter part of May, 1633, Champlain, after one of his many voyages across the stormy Atlantic, reached the rocky fortress of Quebec. This time he brought with him a number of missionaries, who were to carry the gospel to the benighted Indians. Among the missionaries was one figure more striking than the others, Jean de Brébœuf, a man of a noble family of

Normandy. He was a tall man, with broad athletic shoulders and sinewy limbs. Even in his black robes one could not but feel that he was a born soldier. His face, too, wore the stern expression of a man accustomed to deeds of daring and commanding, rather than to the milder aspect of a preacher of the Gospel of Peace. He had been in Canada for several years before this time, and in his labors had found that the Hurons on the shores of Georgian Bay needed him most, and that the difficulties of that mission were suited to his daring spirit. He now came to Canada, anxiously looking for an opportunity to return to his former field of labor, and to what was to prove the scene of his martyrdom.

The Hurons came to Quebec in July on their annual visit, with their canoes laden with furs. A feast was held in their honor, and at the feast Champlain introduced the three missionaries, Daniel, Davost and Brébœuf, to the red men. The Indians had ever found the "Black Robes" loving and helpful, and several of the chiefs welcomed them with stirring speeches. Brébœuf could speak their language and replied with fitting words. The Indians had heard of him, and his noble bearing, and able, diplomatic address filled all with unbounded admiration, and many vied for the honor of carrying him in their canoes. The feast broke up, and the fathers made preparations for a long and trying journey.

However, they met with a disappointment. A difficulty arose between the French and the Indians, and the latter paddled to their country refusing to carry the missionaries with them. The fathers lost no time, however, for they earnestly went to work at the Huron language, and spent the long Canadian winter in obtaining a speaking knowledge of it.

Next year when the Hurons came down they took back with them the missionaries, who, with glad hearts, faced the journey of nine hundred miles. The canoes left Quebec and paddled slowly but steadily up the St. Lawrence till the Ottawa was reached; and then began the difficulties of the way. The rapids of this great northern river forced them to portage again and again, and not infrequently they had to wade waist deep in the boiling flood, dragging their canoes with them. The fathers, unaccustomed to such work, felt it keenly, and even Brébœuf, strong as a lion, was almost exhausted.

CHAPTER V.

ROBERT DE LA SALLE.

By AGNES MAULE MACHAR.

Growth of New France Since Champlain's Days—New England a Rival of New France—Courcelles Undertakes to Explore the Upper St. Lawrence—Canadian Adventurers Hope to Discover a Short Passage to the East—The Early Training of Robert de la Salle—His Arrival in Canada—Receives a Land Grant Near the Rapids of St. Louis—Seneca Iroquois Visit La Salle—Inspired by Them to Begin His Famous Explorations—Sets Out on His First Expedition—Discovers the Ohio and the Illinois—Frontenac La Salle's Friend and Ally—They Decide to Build a Fort at Cataraqui—Frontenac Proceeds in State to Cataraqui—His Meeting with the Iroquois—The Fort Constructed—The Mississippi Discovered by Joliet and Marquette—News of the Discovery Prompts La Salle to Undertake Another Exploring Expedition—Proceeds to France to Interest the King in His Project—Père Hennepin Comes to Canada with La Salle—La Salle Continues His Discoveries—Returns to France and Receives a Royal Patent Permitting Him to Continue His Explorations—Begins His Voyages to the Mississippi—His Party Reaches Niagara Falls—Builds a Fort and Vessel Above the Great Cataract—His Reverses Begin—The “Griffin,” the First Ship on Lake Erie, Completed—La Salle Enters Lake Michigan—The “Griffin” Returns to Niagara with a Load of Furs—Forebodings of Her Fate—La Salle's Enemies Follow Him into the Wilderness—Mutiny Among His Men—Builds Fort Crèvecoeur (Fort Heartbreak)—Convinced of the Loss of the “Griffin”—La Salle's Long and Perilous Journey Back to Fort Frontenac—Plot to Murder La Salle—Overcomes His Enemies—Once More on His Way to the Mississippi—Reaches the “Father of Waters”—Misfortunes Interfere with His Enterprise—Forced to Return to Fort Frontenac—Returns to the Mississippi with Renewed Energy—Journeys Down the Great River—Reaches the Gulf of Mexico—Ascends the Mississippi and Returns to Canada—His Enemies Triumph Over Him and He Sails for France—Sets out on an Expedition for the Gulf of Mexico—Misfortunes Pursue Him—Misses the Mouth of the Mississippi—One of His Ships Wrecked and Another Obliged to Leave Him—The Hardships of the Colonists—Once More in Search of the “Fatal” River—Quarrels Among His Followers—The Murder of La Salle.

Nearly sixty years had passed away since Champlain had founded his little settlement at the foot of the lonely rock of Quebec, and had sought from thence to penetrate to the interior of the new continent before a second great adventurer and explorer, as brave and determined as himself, found his way to New France. In these sixty eventful years, as we have seen, the little colony had struggled nobly against fearful odds, and New France might now be said to have a real individual life of its own.

Governor so much that he soon after resigned his office, leaving for his successor, the Count de Frontenac, a strong recommendation to build the projected fort, which should hold the Iroquois in check and keep for Canada the traffic in furs then in great danger of being diverted to the English and Dutch settlers to the eastward.

As has been shown by the preceding sketches the two main causes that built up New France as a colony were the profits of the fur-trade and the generous enthusiasm awakened in France for the conversion of the Indians. Both objects involved the building of the forts needed to protect traders and missionaries, and around these grew up the future towns and cities. But still another project had greatly influenced the first explorers and settlers—the long cherished idea of finding a short passage across the continent to the rich realms of India and Cathay. And this hope still attracted to the arduous task of exploring unknown regions, the bravest and most adventurous spirits of New France.

Robert Cavalier, afterwards entitled de la Salle, was the most remarkable of these adventurers, with the most eventful history, and most tragic fate. He was born in 1643, about the time of the capture of the heroic Jourges. The son of an old burgher family of Rouen, he received a careful education, and early displayed great intellectual ability, having special talent for mathematics. He was an earnest and devout catholic, and for a time connected himself with the Jesuit Order—a step, which by French law deprived him of his rich paternal inheritance even though he afterwards left the order. His elder brother, an abbé, was a Sulpitian priest at Montreal, and this circumstance seems to have decided his career. With a small fortune—the capital of an allowance of four hundred livres a year—he came to Canada in 1666, a young man of twenty-three, to seek adventure, and win his spurs in hand-to-hand encounter, with foes as determined and seemingly as invincible as the fabled griffins and dragons of fairy tales.

His destiny and his ambitious projects shaped themselves gradually before his mind. He naturally repaired first to his brother at Montreal. Canada was not yet an Episcopal see, as it soon after became, under the ambitious Bishop Laval, the Hildebrand of New France. The "Seminary"

St. Joseph they found the two men left to make a vain search for the "Griffin," and sent them back to join Tonti at Fort Crèvecœur.

After many delays caused by the difficulties of the way, they reached the log cabin on the banks of the Niagara, where the "Griffin" had been built, and where some of the men had been left. In La Salle's case misfortunes indeed "never came single." Here tidings of a new calamity awaited him. In addition to the loss of the "Griffin" and ten thousand crowns in her cargo, a ship coming to him from France, with goods to the value of twenty-two thousand livres, had been wrecked at the mouth of the St. Lawrence, and a band of men hired for service in Europe, had been either detained by the Intendant, or led by reports of his death to return.

Leaving his three exhausted followers at Niagara, La Salle, still undaunted, pushed on through the floods of spring rain to Fort Frontenac, after his perilous journey of a thousand miles—"the most arduous journey ever made by Frenchmen in America;" and that is saying a great deal.

Here there was little but trouble in store for him. His agents had robbed him, his creditors had seized his property, and the rapids of the St. Lawrence had swallowed up several richly-laden canoes. He hurried on to Montreal, astonishing both friends and foes by his arrival, and succeeded within a week in getting the supplies they needed for the party at Crèvecœur. But just as he was leaving Fort Frontenac two *voyageurs* arrived with letters from Tonti telling him of the desertion of nearly the whole garrison, after destroying the fort, and plundering it, and throwing into the river all the stores they could not carry off. The deserters, twenty in number, had also destroyed Fort St. Joseph, carried off a store of furs from Michillimacinac, and plundered the magazine at Niagara. Some of them had taken refuge on the English side of the lake, while the rest were on their way to Fort Frontenac, with the design of killing La Salle himself.

La Salle was always ready for an emergency. He embarked at once in canoes, with nine of his trustiest men, lay in wait for the plunderers as they came down the shore of the lake, and succeeded in intercepting them all, killing two, compelling the rest to surrender, and taking them as prisoners to Fort Frontenac. All his work had now to be begun anew; but however the

CHAPTER VI.

COUNT DE FRONTENAC.

Frontenac the Most Conspicuous Figure in the History of New France—Of a Noble Basque Family—A Soldier at Fifteen—Marries Anne de la Grange-Trianon—At the Siege of Candia—Appointed Governor and Lieutenant-General of New France—Hopes to Build a Great Empire on the Banks of the St. Lawrence—Makes Radical Changes in the Government of Quebec and Canada—Censured by the Home Government for Introducing Changes—His Quarrels with the Intendant and the Clergy—A Friend of La Salle's—His Quarrelsome Nature Forces the King to Recall Him—The Marquis de Denonville Lays Waste the Country of the Senecas—The Iroquois Retaliate with the Massacre of Lachine—Frontenac Sent to Canada to Save the Colony—Plans the Conquest of New England—Three War Parties Sent by Him Against the English Settlers—Their Success Gives New Life to New France—New England Plans the Invasion of Canada—The Expedition Against Montreal a Failure—Sir William Phips Lays Siege to Quebec—Frontenac's Vigorous Resistance—Phips' Fleet Hopelessly Defeated—The People of Quebec Do Honor to Frontenac—Rewarded by the French King—Plans to Drive the English from North America—Sends an Expedition Against the Mohawks—Its Success Gains the Confidence of the Western Indians—Personally Leads an Expedition Against the Iroquois—Returns to Quebec—Old Quarrels Renewed—Death of Frontenac, November 28, 1698—Mourned by All Classes in the Colony—Character of Frontenac.

OF all the governors of New France, Louis de Buade, Count de Frontenac, stands out on the pages of history as the most conspicuous figure.

He had a strangely mixed character; he was arrogant, over-bearing, tyrannical and yet possessed of such force, and energy, and wisdom that he did more than any other man during the time of French occupation in America to establish French rule on a firm basis. He came to Canada at a critical time in her history; a time when on the one hand a sparse population settled along the St. Lawrence was in danger of annihilation from the savage Indians of the Six Nations, and when the struggle which was ultimately to end in the conquest of Canada by the British was in its initial stages. He managed to avert the danger from the Iroquois and to postpone for many years the loss of New France. It was his striking and magnetic personality that enabled him to face the difficult situation he found in

Canada, and had there been a Frontenac in Quebec when Wolfe came against the rocky fortress it is doubtful if the British troops would have succeeded in capturing the city. Certainly Frontenac would never have allowed his troops to face in a pitched battle the veterans composing Wolfe's force.

This illustrious governor was an aristocrat of an ancient and noble Basque family. His father held a high position at the court of Louis XIII, and the king became Frontenac's god-father and had him christened Louis after himself. From his earliest years young Frontenac showed a passion for the life of a soldier, and at the age of fifteen was sent to the seat of war in Holland to serve under the Prince of Orange. He saw much fighting and before his twenty-third year had distinguished himself in a number of battles and sieges. His services were appreciated by his king, and, when twenty-three years old, he was made a colonel in the regiment of Normandy. He continued in the field and was several times wounded and in one engagement had an arm broken. When he was twenty-six years old he was raised to the rank of Maréchal de Camp (brigadier-general). He does not seem to have seen much active service after attaining this high military rank, but returned to Paris where he enjoyed a season of peace and spent his time in entertaining and being entertained.

It was during this time of peace that Frontenac met Anne de la Grange-Trianon, the beautiful daughter of one Sieur de Neuville. He fell passionately in love with this girl, and, after a romantic courtship, which was opposed by the father and friends of his fiancée, they were married in 1648. From the beginning, the marriage seems to have been an unhappy one. It could hardly have been otherwise; they were both strong characters and Frontenac's over-bearing manner and passionate bursts of temper could not fail to make a woman of character and intellect unhappy.

For twenty years but little is known of the life of Frontenac. During these years he entertained extravagantly, and on a small income endeavored to keep pace with the most fashionable grandes of Paris. In 1669, Venetian ambassadors came to the court of France asking aid against the Turks. For several years the Turks had been attacking Candia in overwhelming numbers, and the Venetians felt that without the aid of France it would soon fall.

They requested forces, and likewise that a French officer should be placed in command of the troops operating against the Turks. The task of conducting these operations would need both courage and energy, and it speaks well for Frontenac that he was chosen for this important command. Candia fell, but so ably did Frontenac conduct the campaign that lustre was added to his name, and he was recognized as one of the ablest soldiers of his time.

Three years after his return from the Candia expedition he was appointed Governor and Lieutenant-General for the king in the colony of New France. According to writers of the period, his extravagance had left him deeply in debt and his domestic life was intensely unhappy. It was said that the king gave him this appointment "to deliver him from his wife and afford him some means of living." This can hardly be true, for although Frontenac and his wife were not congenial companions, during the whole course of their lives they seem to have had much respect for each other, and while he was in the wilderness of Canada Madame Frontenac was his most active partisan in the court of France and looked keenly after his interests.

Frontenac was not a young man when he set out for Canada. He had reached his fifty-second year, but was still youthful, fiercely passionate and possessed of a stubborn will. He was a courtier, and it seems strange that such a man should have been sent to rule over the vast wildernesses of Canada; but Frontenac was able to conform to his environment, and indeed from the moment he saw the shores of Canada he loved the country. The vast River St. Lawrence with its thickly wooded banks attracted his eye, and when he reached the lofty rock of Quebec a second Gibraltar, he held it as a fitting place to be the capital of a great empire and resolved within himself to firmly base such an empire.

As soon as he landed in Quebec he at once began to look after the interests of the colony. He did not wait for reports with regard to the country from the officials under him, but examined for himself every detail of the government, and anxiously inquired from all classes as to the needs of Canada. He conversed with traders, with hunters, with fishermen, and was soon thoroughly familiar with the land he had come to govern. One of his

first acts was to convoke a Council at Quebec and administer the oath of allegiance. He had his own ideas as to how Canada should be governed. The three orders of the State no longer assembled in France, but Frontenac thought that some such form of government might be adopted with advantage in Canada and he determined to establish these orders in the New World. The Jesuits and Seminary priests formed the first order, a few nobles and several officers served for the second, and the merchants and citizens for the third. It looked for a time as if the clergy, the nobles, and the commons were to have a voice in the ruling of Canada. He formed the members of the Council and the magistrates into a distinct body. When everything was ready for his new form of government the Jesuits lent him their church, and in it, on the 23rd of October, the three estates were convoked with suitable pomp and splendor. On this occasion Frontenac delivered a paternal and eloquent address to his children, for such he already began to consider the people of Canada, and after administering the oath of allegiance the assembly was dismissed.

Quebec was the centre of the life of the colony, and in Frontenac's opinion it was necessary to have a firm municipal government in the town. He proposed to establish one on the model of some of the French cities of his time. He ordered the public election of three alderman, of whom the senior should act as mayor; having done this he proposed with the assistance of the chief citizens to draw up a body of regulations for the government of the town. He went a step further in the direction of popular government; he ordained that a meeting should be held every six months for the discussion of public questions. Popular government was a thing frowned upon by the king of France, and some of the leading officials recognized that Frontenac's action would prove offensive to the French court. Talon, the Intendant, refused to attend the meeting, and when Colbert, the great Minister, heard of Frontenac's action he warned him against popular government, and pointed out that the meeting of the States-General had not been permitted for many years in France; and in a diplomatic way and with mild censure, forbade him to establish popular government.

CHAPTER VII.

GENERAL JAMES WOLFE.

Wolfe's Birthplace—A Soldier from his Cradle—Joins the 12th Regiment of Foot—Wolfe's General Appearance—His Military Life in Flanders—Operating Against Prince Charles Edward in Scotland—At Culloden Moor—In Love with Miss Lawson—His Efforts to Cultivate His Mind—Attracted Towards America—Distinguishes Himself at the Siege of Rochefort—Joins Expedition Against Louisburg—A Poor Sailor—The Strength of the "Dunkirk of America"—Wolfe Leads the Landing Party at Louisburg—Siege of the Strong Fortress—Its Surrender—Wolfe Auxious to Attack Quebec at once—Sails for England—Fighting Disease—Appointed to Lead the Expedition Against Quebec—Sails for America—The Death-Struggle between the French and English in America About to Begin—Montcalm a Worthy Opponent of Wolfe—The English Fleet Reaches Quebec—Attempts to Destroy It with Fire-Ships—Wolfe's Efforts to Capture Quebec Unsuccessful—The French Confident of Holding Out Till Winter—Wolfe Prostrated by Disease—Determined to Gain the Plains above the City—Wolfe's Heart Presages Death—Scales the Cliff—Battle of the Plains of Abraham—The Death of Wolfe—The Death of Moncalm—The British Troops March Into Quebec—Amid Her Rejoicing England Mourns for Wolfe—Conquest of Canada Makes Revolutionary War Possible—Wolfe's Body Taken to England.

IN the little out of the way village of Westerham in Kent, on January 2, 1727, a man child was born, who was to become known to the world as the man who finally crushed French power on the North American Continent. No doubt the time was ripe for the conquest of the French by the English in America, but the energy, the skill, and bravery of Wolfe hastened the conquest.

James Wolfe was of a military family and early turned his thoughts towards military affairs; in fact, it might almost be said that he was a soldier from his cradle. In 1740, when he was but thirteen years old, he expressed a strong desire to accompany his father, who was Adjutant-General to the expedition against Cartagena. His mother was greatly opposed to having her delicate young son go on such a perilous expedition, but he seemed to have persuaded his father into granting his request. Fortunately, no doubt, sickness prevented him at the last moment from realizing his hope.

enthusiast was Wolfe that some believed his mind unhinged. Newcastle is said to have told the king that he was mad.

"Mad is he!" replied the king, "then all I can say is I hope he'll bite some of my generals."

On February 17, Admiral Saunders, who was in command of Wolfe's fleet, sailed from Spithead with some of the troops. Wolfe himself was on board the "Neptune," ninety guns. As usual he suffered intensely from sea-sickness on the voyage to Halifax. It was a slow passage owing to the storms and heavy winds, and it was not until May that the coast of Nova Scotia was sighted. Louisburg harbor was still frozen, and it was necessary for the fleet to go to Halifax where ships and troops were gathering. It was the beginning of June before the final arrangements were completed and then Admiral Saunders and Wolfe sailed from Louisburg to attack the fortress which nature had made the strongest on the North American continent.

Before the end of June the French in Quebec knew that they would soon be in the midst of the severest struggle that ever took place in Canada, but they had every confidence in their military leader. Montcalm's successes had given them faith in his genius. On the other hand the English troops felt equally confident in the ability of Wolfe to take Quebec. The work he had done before Louisburg in the previous year convinced them that no obstacle was so great as to be able to resist his indomitable will.

France at this time did not possess a cooler head and a braver heart than Montcalm's. England, likewise, had not a truer soldier than young Wolfe. The encounter was indeed to be a meeting of heroes, and a long and severe struggle was expected. The English were hopeful, but the French laughed at the idea of their being able to capture the rugged rock from which their soldiers had so easily repulsed Phips' attack fifty years before.

In the spring of 1759, the news reached Quebec that a British fleet was *en route* for the St. Lawrence. At first the inhabitants were terror-stricken, as Quebec was in no condition to stand a long siege, but their fears were dispersed by the arrival of eighteen sail with supplies from France. British cruisers were on the watch for this fleet, but they had successfully passed them unseen.

Montcalm was at this time at Montreal, but hastened to Quebec with the utmost speed in order to prepare it for a successful resistance. All the available troops were hurried into the city, and the excited inhabitants anxiously kept watch for the expected warships. The fleet, however, suffered long delays and did not appear for some weeks, and thus gave the French time to make ample preparations to receive them. Montcalm and Vaudreuil resolved to concentrate their entire force on the river front between the St. Charles and the Montmorency Rivers, a distance of eight miles, and one continuous line of redoubts, batteries, and entrenchments was constructed. Two hulks were mounted with cannon and placed at the mouth of the St. Charles; and a boom of logs was thrown across it to keep the English fleet from passing up. Every available entrance to the city was closed and barricaded save one which was left open to admit the troops from the river front. A hundred and six cannon frowned from the heights, and a considerable floating battery with guns, fire-ships and fire-rafts protected the front of the city. The entire number of men under arms in and about Quebec was over sixteen thousand. After everything was ready the French patiently awaited the foe, but no foe appeared. At last the suspense was broken by the news that the fleet was at Ile aux Coudres. Three midshipmen belonging to it were captured and brought to Quebec, greatly alarming the French by their tales of the tremendous size and strength of the approaching squadron.

On June 21, a portion of Wolfe's fleet arrived in the north channel of Orleans Island, and very soon all the vessels passed the difficult navigation of the St. Lawrence and anchored south of the island. Some of the leading vessels had hoisted the French flag which attracted several of the inhabitants to come on board. In this way they were able to secure the services of men who were fairly familiar with the river, but in a number of cases the ships had to grope their way up the difficult channel, and that they passed it without the loss of a single ship was a source of considerable surprise to the French authorities. That same night a small party landed and had a brush with the inhabitants, who, when beaten crossed over to the north shore. The next day was a busy one for the British soldiers; boats loaded

him, as he supposed an attack was to be made upon his position like those from which he had already suffered, but on a more extensive scale.

On the same day French deserters brought in the welcome news that during the night supplies were to pass down to Montcalm's camp under cover of darkness. Wolfe at once thought that his boats might seize the opportunity of going down in advance of them, deceive the sentinels along the river, and gain the *Anse du Foulon* without opposition. He had some fear that Montcalm might suspect his intentions, and that the French might be in force on the Plains of Abraham to oppose his landing. To avoid this Admiral Saunders, who was in command of the fleet in the basin of Quebec was to storm Montcalm's position while Wolfe, in person, made the attack above the city. At nightfall, Saunders began a fierce fire on the entrenchments and sent off boats loaded with men to pretend a landing. Montcalm was completely deceived, and as the battle grew hot and vigorous, he called his troops together to resist what he supposed to be a concentrated attack.

While Saunders was doing such effective work on Montcalm's entrenchments, Wolfe was patiently awaiting the ebb of the tide which was to aid his men. At two o'clock in the morning everything was in readiness. A signal lantern gleamed from the mainmast of the "Sutherland." It was the signal to begin operations and the boats at once began to float toward their destination, favored by a light wind. Wolfe was in one of the foremost boats, and while he was being rowed ashore recited Gray's celebrated poem, "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"—saying, as he finished, "Gentlemen, I would rather have written those lines than take Quebec." The recitation of such a poem at such a time, shows clearly that Wolfe's heart was presaging death. It may be he wished it, he knew he had not long to live and it would be glorious to die in harness on the great battle-field of the morrow. This was not the only evidence that he anticipated death; to several of his more intimate friends he had said that he did not expect to survive the battle; and to his old school fellow, "Jackie" Jervis, afterwards the distinguished admiral Lord Vincent, who was then in command of a sloop before Quebec, he said that he did not expect to survive the battle, and he took from his neck a miniature of Miss Lowther, his fiancée, and asked Jervis to deliver the

portrait to Miss Lowther if he should fall in the fight. After the battle, too, the following verses from Pope's "Iliad" were found in his pocket:

"But since, alas! ignoble age must come,
Disease, and death's inexorable doom,
That Life which other's pay, let us bestow,
And give to fame what we to nature owe.
Brave let us fall, or honoured if we live,
Or let us glory gain or glory give.
Such, men shall own, deserve a sovereign state,
Envied by those who dare not imitate."

As the British troops neared the shore a French sentinel seeing the boats cried out, "*Qui Vive!*" "*La France!*" was the reply of a Highland officer. "*A quel regiment?*" questioned the sentinel. "*De la Reine,*" answered the quick-witted officer. The troops then passed on unmolested, the sentinel believing them to be part of a French regiment on the way from De Bougainville's camp to join Montcalm. They were again challenged at the headland of Samos, but this, too, they passed in safety, by replying to the sentinel, "*Provision boats!* don't make a noise ; the English will hear us!"

In a few minutes after passing Samos they landed at the *Anse du Foulon*, and quickly disembarked. The volunteers at once began scaling the wooded heights, scrambling up among the rough bushes that then, as now, clustered thickly on the steep bank. De Vergor was not on his guard, but had gone to bed. He relied too much on the difficulties of the ascent. So completely was he taken by surprise that the foe were upon him before he could dress. He endeavored to escape, but was shot in the heel and captured. The guard was soon overpowered, and the troops below came scrambling up after their victorious comrades. Before the last of the boats had landed, the battery at Samos became aware of the real character of the force, and began to fire upon it. A party was detailed to silence this battery, and they did it quickly and effectually. Scarcely had these guns ceased when the sullen roar from Sillery told the British that the gunners there knew of their presence and were on the alert. This battery, too, was soon captured, and the river front immediately above Quebec was left entirely unprotected. Quickly the fleet of boats sped between the ship and the shore, until all the needed troops were

landed. At daybreak the heights were held by a large force that had succeeded in dragging several cannon up the difficult bank.

Wolfe at once looked about him for a battle-ground, and soon decided on drawing up his troops on the rough plateau known as the "Plains of Abraham." He now had what he had anxiously longed for—a prospect of an immediate meeting in a general engagement with the foe; yet victory was not certain, and a defeat would have been a horrible disaster in his present position. He had not exactly burnt his ships behind him, but retreat to them was an impossibility. The force in Quebec, too, although composed of inferior soldiers to his picked troops, vastly outnumbered his men. However, he hopefully awaited the coming of the enemy. As has already been pointed out he did not expect to survive this battle, but he felt sure that his brave soldiers would win the day. He would not shirk any danger, but with Murray and Monckton took command of the centre, where he anticipated that the heaviest fighting would occur.

Meantime in the early September morning, Montcalm, in his tent, was roused by the startling news of this unforeseen landing effected by his gallant antagonist. He hurried at once to the city, followed by a motley crowd of soldiers and citizens. At break-neck speed he galloped on to the scene of action, and to his amazement found the rough plateau of the "Plains" occupied by a strong force of the enemy. For the first time since the commencement of the siege he seems to have lost his head and acted rashly. His troops were comparatively safe within the walls and it would have been next to impossible for Wolfe to have taken Quebec by assault. He was playing the enemy's game when he decided to begin an engagement at once. He hoped that Vaudreuil would join him with a strong force, but in this he was disappointed. His ardent spirit would brook no delay. His men, too, were eager for action, and with them he went at once to meet the foe. His thrilling voice, that had so often inspired his soldiers, urged on his excited troops to the charge for the honor of France, and on his spirited black steed he galloped from point to point brandishing his sword and urging his men to their arduous and perilous task.

CHAPTER VIII.

GUY CARLETON.

Guy Carleton a Favorite with Wolfe—Born in Cornwall—At the Siege of Quebec—Promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General—Governor-General of Canada—Visits England in the Interests of the Colony—His Policy with Regard to the Province of Quebec—Quebec Act Passed—This Act Not Satisfying to All Parties—General Carleton Returns to Canada—Canada Threatened with Invasion—Montgomery Invades the West—Arnold Marches Against Quebec—The “Continental” Army Before Quebec—Arnold’s Demand for Surrender Treated with Derision—Montgomery Victorious in the West—Governor Carleton Escapes from Montreal with Difficulty—The Journey to Quebec—Montgomery Joins Arnold—Canadian Winter Hard on the “Continental” Army—Disloyalty Among the French—An Attack Planned—The Death of Montgomery—Arnold’s Forces Driven Back With Loss—Congress Determines to Send a Larger Force into Canada—Commissioners Sent to Win Canadians to American Cause—Governor Carleton Remains on the Defensive—Reinforcements Reach Quebec in Spring—The British Drive the Americans from Before the City—The Invading Army Retires From Canada—Carleton Gets Control of Lake Champlain for the British—General Burgoyne Appointed to the Supreme Military Command—Governor Carleton Resigns His Office—Knighted by the King—Appointed to Succeed Clinton as Commander-in-Chief—The Friend of the Loyalists Who Settled in Canada—Created Baron Dorchester—Lord Dorchester Sent to Canada as Governor—Rules with Firmness and Wisdom—Dissatisfaction With the Quebec Act—The Constitutional Act Passed—A Critical Time in Canadian Affairs—Lord Dorchester Leaves Canada—The True Founder of British North America.

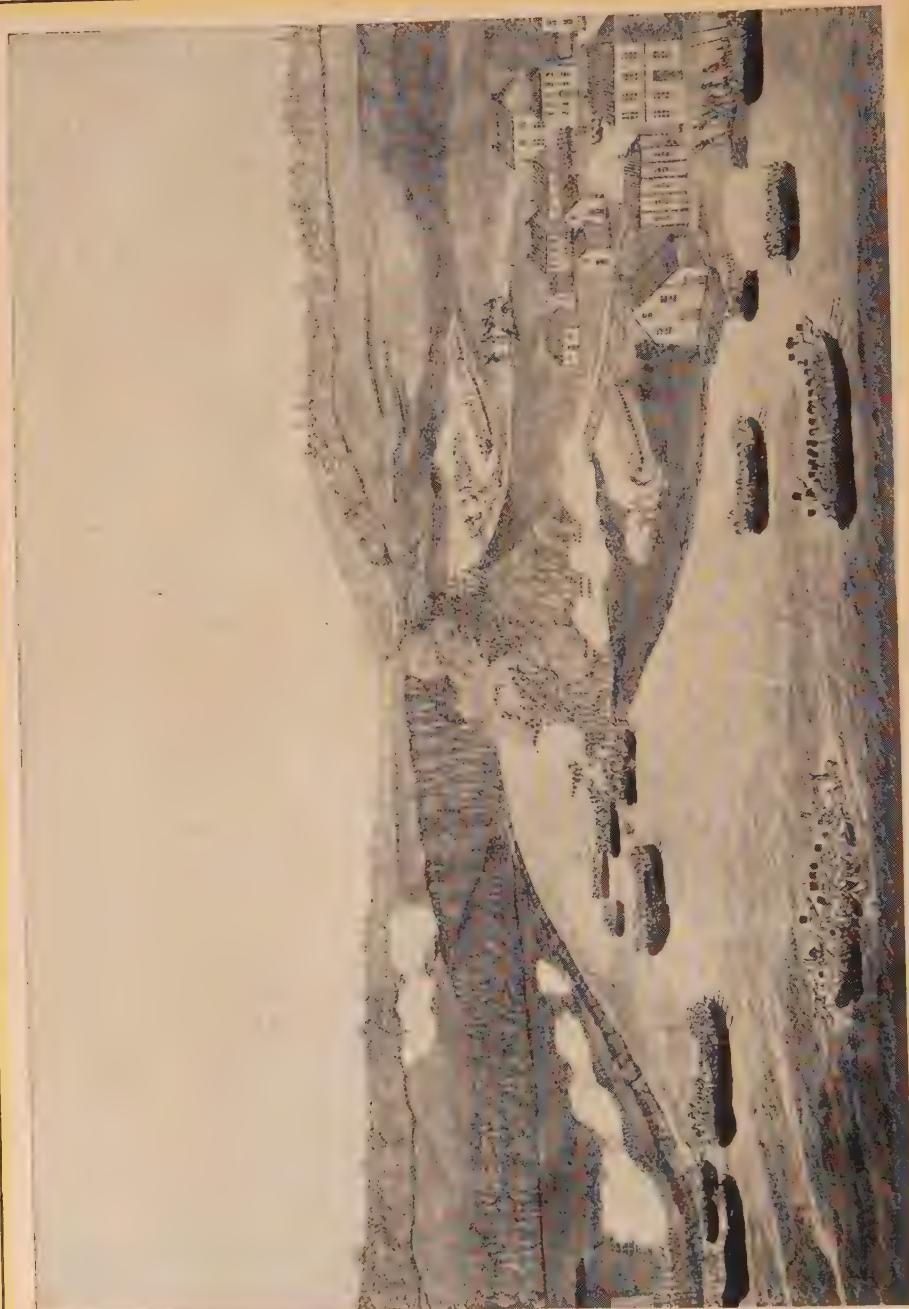
GENERAL WOLFE by his dogged determination, resolute will and extensive military experience won Canada from the French in 1759.

He had with him at the great siege of Quebec a young officer who was afterwards to save Canada for England, and to do much to unite into a compact nation the naturally antagonistic races settled along the St. Lawrence. Guy Carleton had been selected by Wolfe as his quartermaster-general in the expedition against Quebec contrary to the wishes of the king and his ministers. Wolfe made no mistake in the choice; he had in his army no more trustworthy officer than the young man of thirty-four, who was to be the first truly great maker of Canada under the British régime, and who afterwards, as Lord Dorchester, was to lay the foundation of the Canada of to-day.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR ISAAC BROCK, K.D.



THE EARL OF DURHAM, G.C.B.





STATUE TO GOVERNOR SIMCOE

THAYENDANESEA (JOSEPH BRANT)



Guy Carleton, like many another brilliant soldier, was an Irishman, having been born at Strabane in September, 1724. He early began a military career and was trained in the wars that did so much to make Wolfe; but it was not until the siege of Quebec that his abilities as a soldier and an administrator began to be recognized. When the fortress surrendered he proved himself one of the most efficient officers in the new-won colony and at the second battle of Quebec, when De Lévis made a mighty effort to win back the city from the British troops and almost succeeded, he was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general for his brilliant services.

The Governor-General of Canada after the conquest of Canada was General Murray, but in 1766 he returned to England leaving Lieutenant-Colonel *Æ*Emilius Irving to conduct the Government. Five months after his departure Guy Carleton reached Quebec as Lieutenant-Governor and acting Governor-General; a year later he became Governor-General. Several of his councillors had been guilty of what he considered political misdemeanors and he promptly struck their names off the roll. He likewise dismissed several officers who were considered guilty of extortion. His action at the beginning of his rule was generally appreciated and gave the inhabitants of Canada, especially the French, confidence in him. He had long seen that there was much dissatisfaction in the Provinces, and he saw that it would continue and increase unless a radical change was made in the mode of governing Quebec. He had no easy community to rule; at that time there were in the country about 150,000 French and about 400 or 500 English, and the difficulties were increased by the fact that the British were, for the most part, Protestants, and the French, Roman Catholics. But he had a definite policy and in 1769 visited England leaving Hector Theophile Cramahe to conduct the government in his absence. He crossed the Atlantic with the hope of having the home government legislate according to what he saw to be the needs of the colony.

His policy as stated by Mr. William Houston was: "(1) To enlarge the area of the Province of Quebec so as to include within it as much as possible of the territory which had once belonged to French Canada; (2) to centralize both legislation and administration as much as possible under the control of

CHAPTER X.

JOSEPH BRANT.

Famous Indians in Canadian History—Joseph Brant a Celebrated Chief—Little Known of His Early Life—His Father a Mohawk Warrior—His Life Intimately Associated with the Life of Sir William Johnson—Brant's First Military Experience at Crown Point—Serves Under Sir William Johnson at Niagara—The Education of Joseph Brant at Moor Charity School, Lebanon, Connecticut—A Diligent Student—In the Pontiac War—Translates the Gospel of St. Mark and the Anglican Prayer Book into the Mohawk Language—Appointed Chief of the Six Nations—Leaves the Mohawk Valley on Outbreak of Revolutionary War—Visits England—Returns to Canada—At the Battle of the Cedars—His Raids Along the Susquehanna—At the Battle of Oriskany—Campbell Misrepresents Him in His “Gertrude of Wyoming”—A Description of Brant by an American Prisoner—The Mohawk Valley Left Desolate—Brant and His Followers Settle Along the Grand River—A Second Visit to England—An Amusing Incident at a Fancy-Dress Ball—The First Church Erected in Upper Canada—The Indians Dissatisfied—Brant's Words with Regard to the Indian Land Grants—Brant Employed in Negotiations Between the United States and the Indians—A Friend of Governor Simcoe's—Hospitality Entertains Visitors at His Home—His Noble Dying Words—A Mighty Force in Keeping the Indians of Canada Loyal to Great Britain.

COMPARATIVELY few Indians stand out prominently in Canadian and American history. Tribes have come and gone, have roamed through the forest and over the vast western plains, but only at long intervals has a commanding figure arisen to stamp history with his name. Three chieftains, however, figure conspicuously in the history of Canada—Pontiac, Brant and Tecumseh. Of Pontiac, probably the greatest among North American Indians, a savage capable of uniting in a common cause the Indians from the great plains of the west and those dwelling by the rivers of the southern states, there is nothing to be said here as he figured not as a maker of Canada, but as one who sought to destroy English power along the St. Lawrence. Tecumseh, on account of the active part he took in the war of 1812, will be dealt with in a separate study. Joseph Brant, Thayendanegea, however, is of more importance to the student of Canadian history than either of the other chieftains mentioned. He was the friend of the English from first to last, and at the most critical time in the history of England's great colony,

Canada, stood by her through evil report and good report and made great sacrifices on England's behalf.

Of the early life of Joseph Brant but little is known; even his birthplace and parentage are uncertain. He was very probably born on the banks of the Ohio river, and his boyhood days were spent in the Mohawk valley. Historians differ as to who was Brant's father, but on the whole it is generally believed that he was the son of the celebrated warrior, Nickus Brant, a full-blooded Mohawk of the Wolf tribe. His father was doubtless a chieftain and Brant from his earliest days could look forward to being a leader among his people. From his boyhood days his life was intimately associated with the life of General William Johnson, who did so much by his bravery, and skill as a general, and his diplomacy in dealing with the Indians to win the west for England during the French wars and who kept the flag of England from being driven from the western country during the Revolutionary war.

When General William Johnson made his celebrated attack on Crown Point in 1755, he had in his force three sons of Nickus Brant, the youngest of these was Joseph, who at that time could not have been over thirteen or fourteen years old. In this fight old Chief Hendrick was slain and his place among the Indians of America was probably taken by Brant's father. As a result of the expedition against Crown Point Johnson was knighted and received from his king the very handsome gift of £5000. Four years later, in 1759, in the final conflict between the French and English for supremacy in North America, Sir William Johnson was to play an important part. Niagara was then in the possession of the French; it was one of the most important and strongly fortified positions in the west and a considerable army was sent against it under General Prideaux. With a force of about 2000 men this distinguished English general left Oswego on July 1. As he journeyed towards the French fort he was joined by Sir William Johnson with some 600 warriors of the Six Nations. Other Indians joined the expedition and by the time Niagara was reached Johnson had under his command a body of probably over one thousand Indians. Young Joseph Brant was one of the most reliable red men in the force. Shortly after they reached Niagara General Prideaux was killed by the premature bursting of a

CHAPTER XI.

GENERAL ISAAC BROCK.

Brock one of the World's Military Heroes—First sees Active Service in Holland—with Nelson before Copenhagen—Comes to Canada in 1802—Believes War between United States and Great Britain Inevitable—Made a Brigadier-General in 1808—Sent to the Province of Upper Canada—War Declared—Brigadier-General Hull Marches into Canada—Brock Ready to Meet Him—Tecumseh an Ally of the British—Hull Withdraws His Men to Detroit—Brock Resolves to Attack Detroit—Hull's Ignominious Surrender—Brock Fears for the Safety of the Niagara Frontier—An Armistice Agreed Upon—Brigadier-General Van Rensselær Hopes to Capture Queenston Heights—Efforts to Cross to the Canadian Shore—A Battle in Progress—Brock Gallops to the Scene of Conflict—The Death of Brock—The Gallant Stand of the Americans—A Glorious Victory for the Canadian Soldiers—On the Day of His Death Brock Created a Knight for His Victory at Detroit—The Americans at Fort Niagara Give their Tribute of Mourning to the Gallant Dead.

IN the year 1769 three of the world's military heroes were born, Napoleon, Wellington and our own Brock. The last named, from his earliest years, had set his heart on a military career, and began his life's work as an ensign at the age of sixteen. In a little more than seven years his noble character and sterling intellect had advanced him to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel of the 49th, a regiment with which he was to be identified till the day of his death.

He first saw active service in Holland, where, at the battle of Egmont op-Zee, he acquitted himself with great courage, and where he narrowly escaped death. He was with Nelson, too, in the Baltic, and proved himself both a wise soldier and careful commander at Copenhagen.

But his career began in earnest when his regiment was ordered to Canada in 1802. After three years service in this country he was made a colonel, and returned to England on leave of absence to visit his friends. But his heart was in Canada and his stay in the Old World was to be cut short.

From his arrival in this country he felt that sooner or later the Americans and British would come to blows, and while he was in England news came across the waters that made him tremble for his adopted home. Without delay he sailed for Canada, and on his arrival began to make the defences as secure as possible. Darker and darker grew the war cloud, and fearing that in case of an invasion the Americans would make Quebec their first point of attack he had it strengthened by every means in his power.

Brock grew in popularity both in Canada and in England. He was the idol of his men and he was deemed such a worthy commander that in 1808 he was made a brigadier-general. In 1810 he was sent to the Upper Province, and established himself at Fort George on the Niagara frontier. This district was in such close proximity to the United States that an invasion was to be expected here, and Brock carefully examined the whole frontier, studying the country and making preparations for the struggle that must take place.

In the year after his arrival in the Upper Province, Francis Gore, Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, went to England, and General Brock was left in entire control of the Province, being first both in civil and military affairs.

On the 18th of June, 1812, the long anticipated war was declared, and seven days later Brock received word of it at Fort George. He at once saw to the defences of the entire West, visiting in person every important point from Niagara to Detroit. The eastern frontier, with Kingston as its chief point, was in equally imminent danger and this district he placed under the command of an able officer, Major-General Shaw.

The blow was not long in falling. On the 12th of July, Brigadier-General Hull marched into Canada with a strong force, and issued a proclamation threatening dire vengeance to all who dared resist his progress, and promising peace and plenty to those who would aid him. Brock was not in the least alarmed, and replied to his arrogant threats that England was ready, not only to defend, but to avenge all her subjects, whether red or white. And the Province was prepared to aid him in making good his reply. No sooner was the invasion known than men from all districts rushed to his

CHAPTER XIII.

THOMAS CHANDLER HALIBURTON.

BY F. BLAKE CROFTON.

Birth and Parentage of Haliburton—His Education—Called to the Bar—in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly—Censured by the Assembly—Succeeds his Father as Judge—His Windsor Home—Takes up his Residence in England—Receives the Degree of D.C.L. from Oxford University—Represents Launceston in the Imperial House of Commons—Not a Brilliant Parliamentarian—His Literary Work—His Influence on Longfellow's picture of the Acadian Expulsion—Contributes to "Fraser's Magazine"—Haliburton a Lover of Fun—Conservative in his Ideas and Instincts—Yearns for a Fuller Imperial Citizenship for the Colonies—"Sam Slick" a Brilliant Piece of Humor—Artemus Ward Terms Haliburton the Founder of the American School of Humor—General Summing up of his Achievements.

THOMAS Chandler Haliburton, until recently the most noted writer born in British North America, was the son of William Hersey Otis Haliburton, Chief Justice of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, as his office was ponderously styled, and of Lucy, daughter of Major Alexander Grant, one of Wolfe's officers. He was born in Windsor, N. S., on the 17th of December, 1796. He was educated in his native town at the Grammar School, and subsequently at King's College, graduating (B. A.) in 1815. In 1820 he was called to the Bar, and practised his profession for some years in Annapolis, which he represented in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly from 1826 to 1829. One of the most notable incidents of his career in the Provincial Legislature was his warm, eloquent and successful pleading in 1827 for the abolition of the test oath, containing a declaration against transubstantiation which debarred devout Catholics from holding public office. His persistent efforts to obtain a grant for Pictou Academy, which was more than once voted by the House of Assembly and thrown out by the Council, led to his characterizing the latter body in a newspaper as "twelve dignified, deep-read, pensioned old ladies, but filled with prejudices and whims like all other antiquated spinsters." For this the Council demanded

an apology from the House, which was at first refused ; but, on the Council's more preremptorily repeating its demand, the House passed a resolution of censure, which is thus recorded in its journals, April 4, 1827 :

"Thomas C. Haliburton, Esq., one of the members for the County of Annapolis, being called upon and having admitted that he did in this House speak the words complained of by His Majesty's Council, and afterwards published the same :

"Resolved, therefore, unanimously : That the House do consider the conduct of the said Thomas C. Haliburton on that occasion as highly reprehensible, and that Mr. Speaker do pass the censure of this House upon the said Thomas C. Haliburton by publicly reprimanding him therefore at the Bar of this House."

Haliburton duly appeared at the Bar and received the reprimand. But he felt the snub so much, or thought the back-down of the House so disheartening, that he finally abandoned his efforts on behalf of the Pictou Academy and by so doing provoked much bitter criticism, which has not ended with his life. This apparent desertion of a cause which he had so vigorously championed was doubtless one of the reasons which led the government to resist his claim for a pension, until, some years after his retirement from the Bench, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council decided in his favor. In 1829 he succeeded to his father's judgeship and soon after removed to Windsor, N. S., where he occupied a pretty villa named "Clifton," whose grounds adjoined those of King's College. In 1841 he was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court. He retired from the Bench in 1856 and took up his residence in England, intending to devote himself exclusively to literature. The University of Oxford gave him the honorary degree of D. C. L in 1858, and he was elected a member of the Athenæum Club.

From 1859 to 1865 he represented Launceston in the Imperial House of Commons. In Parliament Haliburton acted as the representative rather of British North America than of his English constituency, and he several times combated the then disposition of many statesmen to get rid of the Colonies. But he did not make the mark in the House which the admirers of his

CHAPTER XIV.

HON. JOSEPH HOWE.

The Late Principal Grant's Estimate of Joseph Howe—Howe's Love for Nova Scotia and Her People and His Far-Reaching Influence—Sabine's Account of the Euthusiasm for "Joe Howe"—His Father a United Empire Loyalist of Boston—A God-Fearing Man—Joe Howe's Tribute to His Father's Memory—The Birthplace of the Great Reformer—A Child of Nature—His Education—Learns the Printing Trade—A Poet of Considerable Power—Purchases the "Nova Scotian"—Attacks the Abuses of His Time—Howe's Far-Reaching Influence as a Journalist—The Nova Scotia "Family Compact"—Mr. George E. Fenety's Description of the Council—Howe's Familiarity with the Whole Province—His Marriage—A Serious Illness—His Celebrated Trial for Libel—Elected to the Assembly—Begins the Great Battle for Responsible Government—The Stubborn Attitude of the Council—Howe Moves a Series of Twelve Reform Resolutions—His Brilliant Eight Hour Speech in the Assembly—Joe Howe in a Duel—The Council, Enraged at Resolutions, Refuses to Pass Supply Bill—Howe Appeals to the Secretary for the Colonies—Sir Colin Campbell Opposed to Responsible Government—Lord Falkland Replaces Him—Howe Makes an Enemy of Lord Falkland—Howe's Life Among the Farmers of Musquodoboit—His Influence Upon the Material Prosperity of Nova Scotia—His Attitude Towards Confederation—His Great Detroit Speech—Takes Office Under Sir John Macdonald—Appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia—His Death.

THE late Principal Grant in his powerful sketch of the character and career of the Hon. Joseph Howe, which appeared in *The Canadian Monthly* nearly twenty-eight years ago, calls that great reformer "Nova Scotia incarnate." At first this may seem but a half truth, for during many long years Howe was bitterly opposed in his reforms by a large and influential section of the people of the Atlantic Province of the Dominion. But these people were, for the most part, alien to the soil. They were not Nova Scotians, but native born Englishmen or United Empire Loyalists who formed a species of "Family Compact" in the land where they had pitched their tents, and who despised the natives of the Province, looking upon them as only fit to be hewers of wood and drawers of water to the dominant class. Joseph Howe, or "Joe Howe," as he was more familiarly called, was truly representative of the masses of Nova Scotia. They loved him and me them; and the ocean-

washed shores, the tide-tortured rivers, the barren places, and the fruitful valleys of his native land were dearer to him than any other places on earth.

No other Canadian—not even Sir John Macdonald or Sir Wilfrid Laurier—has had such enthusiastic worship from his followers. Through his paper and in parliament he talked to them “about politics, and trade and agriculture;” he made them “laugh a good deal” and “think a good deal more” even while they were laughing. He formed them; his thoughts were their thoughts, and the freedom they ultimately possessed was brought about by him and they reverenced him as at once their friend and the shaper of their ideals.

Sabine in his *Loyalists of the American Revolution* admirably shows the enthusiasm there was, in the forties, throughout the length and breadth of Nova Scotia for the man who had done by pen and tongue what Mackenzie and Papineau failed to do by force of arms in Upper and Lower Canada.

“It was ‘Jo Howe’ by day and by night,” writes Sabine. “The Yankee peddler drove good bargains in ‘Jo Howe’ clocks. In the coal mine, in the plaster-quarry, in the ship-yard, in the forest, on board the fishing pogy, the jigger and the pinkey, it was still ‘Jo Howe.’ Ships and babies were named ‘Jo Howe.’ The loafers of the shops and taverns swore great oaths about ‘Jo Howe.’ The young men and maidens flirted and courted in ‘Jo Howe’ badges, and played and sang ‘Jo Howe’ glees. It was ‘Jo Howe’ everywhere.”

Joseph Howe was of United Empire Loyalist stock,—Puritan stock at that. At the time of the American Revolution, his father, John Howe, was employed as a printer in Boston. He worked for a Mrs. Draper who was publishing the *Boston News-Letter* when the flames of revolution broke out. Mrs. Draper seems to have been a loyal Britisher, and when the British troops evacuated the city, in 1776, she moved her printing plant to Halifax and there established the *Nova Scotia Gazette*. She took with her John Howe, who, for some four or five years, managed her business. In 1781 he branched

CHAPTER XVI.

BISHOP STRACHAN.

The Pioneer in Educational Matters in Upper Canada—Of Humble Scotch Parentage—Begins His Life Work as a Tutor—A Graduate of the University of Aberdeen—A School-Teacher in Scotland—Offered a Situation in Canada—His Disappointment on Reaching the New World—Teaches in Kingston—Takes Orders in the Church of England—Appointed to Cornwall—The Celebrated Cornwall School Established by Him—His Ideals as a Teacher—Appointed Rector at York—Does Excellent Work during the War of 1812—On Death of Honorable Richard Cartwright Appointed a Member of the Executive Council of Upper Canada—Vehemently Denounces Mr. Robert Gourlay—Appointed a Member of the Legislative Council—Pays a Visit to the Motherland—The Church of St. James Burned—The Building of the Cathedral of St. James—Mr. Poulett Thomson and the Clergy Reserves Question—Corner-Stone of King's College Laid—The Bishop of Toronto's Work in Connection with His Diocese—University of Toronto Takes the Place of King's College—Trinity College Opened—The Closing Years of Bishop Strachan's Life.

JOHN STRACHAN, Bishop of Toronto, was one of the first men to direct the attention of the people of Upper Canada to educational matters. He was of Scotch descent, having been born in Aberdeen, April 12, 1778. His father was an overseer in a stone-quarry and was nominally a Presbyterian, but it is said that he had a strong liking for the Episcopal service, and that his son frequently visited an Episcopal chapel with him.

When John Strachan was only fourteen years old his father met with an accident in the quarry which caused his death. His family were left in poor circumstances, and John had to look about him to find something to do to assist his mother and sisters to earn their livelihood. He secured work as a tutor and by rigid economy was enabled to enter the University of Aberdeen in 1794. The long vacation of the Scotch University gave him much time to himself and during these months he industriously taught. He had a successful college career and graduated a Master of Arts.

On graduating he obtained a school near St. Andrews with a salary of £30 a year, but he managed to save even out of this small income. He was a born teacher and early acquired a good reputation. A vacancy occurred in Kettle; he applied for the position and was accepted. At Kettle he received £50 a year.

About this time Upper Canada was attracting a good deal of attention in the Old World. A teacher was needed for that far distant province and Mr. Strachan, who was now in his twenty-first year was offered the position. He did not like the thought of leaving Scotland and his friends there, but the temptation of a free passage to the New World, board and lodging, and £80 a year induced him to leave his fatherland.

He sailed late in the year for Canada, and did not reach Kingston until the last day of December. Here he found that the situation had been misrepresented to him, and so disgusted with the outlook was he that he was anxious to return to Scotland at once; but he had not the price of a passage home. Richard Cartwright was then one of the leading men in Upper Canada. He was attracted by the sturdy and scholarly young Scot and took him into his own house, giving him tutorial work to do.

For three years John Strachan resided in Kington and was, during that time, a most successful teacher; but he saw no future for him in the teaching profession and so he decided to take Orders in the Church of England. He was ordained on May 22, 1803, and was appointed to Cornwall.

Although he was now a preacher of the Gospel he found it impossible to shake off his love of teaching, and as soon as he was established at Cornwall renewed his work as a teacher and established the celebrated Cornwall School. Among his pupils were a number of lads who were to rise to the first place in the affairs of this country. As a teacher he had strikingly original methods. His boys were thoroughly drilled, but at the same time he was no pedant. He had the very loftiest conception of education, and in an address which he delivered four years after establishing his school at Cornwall, pointed out what he believed to be the true purpose of education.

CHAPTER XVII.

DR. EGERTON RYERSON.

Dr. Egerton Ryerson of United Empire Loyalist Stock—His Father Receives a Grant of Land in Upper Canada—Young Ryerson Early a Lover of Books—His Education—A Deeply Religious Nature—Joins the Methodist Communion—An Usher in the London District Grammar School—A Diligent Student—Returns to His Father's Farm—A Missionary to the Indians on the Credit—Crosses Swords with Archdeacon Strachan on the Clergy Reserves Question—His Attitude Towards the Church of England—The “Christian Guardian” Established—Goes to England in the Interests of the Canadian Methodist Church—Gives His Impressions of English Public Men—Denounced by William Lyon Mackenzie as an Apostate—His Active Opposition to the Rebellious Tendencies in Upper Canada—Sent to England in the Interests of Upper Canada Academy—His Words at the Close of the Patriots’ War—His Battle with Sir Francis Bond Head over Grant to Upper Canada Academy—His Generosity to Political Opponents—Appointed Principal of Victoria College—Appointed Superintendent of Public Schools in Upper Canada—His Theory of Education—Establishes the “Journal of Education”—Completes his “History of the Loyalists of America and Their Times”—The Close of His Life.

A FITTING companion study for Bishop Strachan is that of Dr. Egerton Ryerson. They were both scholarly men, both strong and somewhat stubborn men, and both were animated with a zeal for God and an exalted patriotism. In many ways they were, however, diametrically opposed to each other.

Dr. Ryerson was of United Empire Loyalist stock, his father having fought in the British army during the War of the Revolution. Much of Dr. Ryerson’s austerity of character was inherited from his mother, who was a descendant of one of the earliest settlers in Massachusetts. When the War of the Revolution came to a close, and the Thirteen Colonies were victors in the struggle, Ryerson, with many other loyal Britishers, settled in New Brunswick. It was in these first years of his settlement in British North America that he met his wife. Not finding the climate or the soil of New Brunswick congenial, however, and attracted by the excellent offers held out

to settlers in Canada the United Empire Loyalist journeyed westward ; and with a pension, which he received from the British government, and a grant of some twenty-five hundred acres of land, he could be considered fairly well-to-do, even if his property was, for the most part, forest land. From the beginning he was a figure of some prominence in Upper Canada, and in 1800 was appointed High Sheriff of the London district. He held this office until 1806, but by this time his farm was demanding all his attention, and for the future he devoted his entire energies to agriculture.

His son Egerton was born in 1803. He was soon a sturdy lad, and from his earliest years was an energetic worker on his father's farm. He early developed a love for books, and was encouraged by both his parents in his studies. The schools in Western Canada were, at the beginning of the century, exceedingly wretched institutions, taught, for the most part, by men who had failed in every other walk in life. Fortunately, however, young Ryerson had the advantage of an excellent teacher. Mr. James Mitchell, in scholarship and ability as an instructor, was a man second only to Dr. Strachan, and the care he devoted to his brilliant young pupil was not lost.

From Egerton Ryerson's boyhood days he showed a strength of character and depth of feeling beyond his years. At the age of twelve he became deeply religious and continued a zealous follower of Christ until the end of his life. His own reminiscent words with regard to this stage of his career show well how deep and mature a nature his was even when a boy :

“At the close of the American War, in 1815, when I was twelve years of age, my three elder brothers, George, William and John, became deeply religious and I imbibed the same spirit. My consciousness of guilt and sinfulness was humbling, oppressive and distressing; and my experience of relief, after lengthened fastings, watchings and prayers, was clear, refreshing and joyous. In the end I simply trusted in Christ, and looked to Him for a present salvation ; and as I looked up in my bed, the light appeared to my mind, and, as I thought, to my bodily eye also, in the form of One, white-robed, who approached the bedside with a smile, and with more of the expression of the countenance of Titian's Christ than of any person whom I

CHAPTER XXII.

SIR GEORGE ETIENNE CARTIER.

BY J. CASTELL HOPKINS.

The Birth of Cartier—Supposed to be Descended from one of the Nephews of Jacques Cartier—Studies at the College of St. Sulpice—Enters upon the Study of Law—Practises His Profession in Montreal—Sides with Papineau in the Rebellion of 1837—After the Defeat of Rebels Cartier Flees to the United States—Returns to Canada—Pardoned by the Government—Returned to Parliament for the County of Verchères—Appointed Provincial Secretary in the Cabinet of Sir Allan McNab—in 1857 Appointed Attorney-General—Visits England in the Interests of a Federal Union—One of the Fathers of Confederation—A Member of the Canadian Assembly for Verchères from 1848 to 1861—Returned for Montreal East in 1861—A Member of the Executive Council of Canada—Entrusted with the Formation of a Government with Sir John A. McDonald—Attorney-General under Sir Etienne Taché—Member of the Colonial Conference, London, 1866-7—Created a Baronet—Minister of Militia and Defence for the Dominion—Influential in Promoting the Construction of the Grand Trunk Railway and the Victoria Bridge—Dies in London—George Maclean Rose's Summing up of Cartier's Career.

Sir George Etienne Cartier, Minister of Militia, was born in the Village of St. Antoine, in the County of Verchères, on the 6th of September, 1814. It was claimed for him that he was descended from one of the nephews of Jacques Cartier, the adventurous Breton navigator who showed to France the ocean pathways to a possible western empire. But aside from this interesting idea he made for himself in the history of his country a name and fame which, by right of native ability and resolute and fortunate effort, was permanently his own. His immediate ancestors were of the better class of French-Canadians. His grandfather, a successful merchant, was one of the first members chosen for the County of Verchères when the Constitutional Act of 1791 gave to Lower Canada the right to representative institutions.

In Lower Canada during the early days of George Etienne Cartier, as now, two avocations possessed a strong attraction for the more gifted amongst the younger population. These were the Church and the Bar. Cartier chose the

latter. To qualify himself for his intended profession, he pursued, for eight years, a course of study at the College of St. Sulpice, in the city of Montreal. After leaving college he entered upon the study of law, and in 1835 began to practise in Montreal. The secret of his success at that time and indeed throughout his life was an industry that never knew cessation, an energy that never faltered, and an ever-present consciousness of his own ability.

And he had scarcely begun the practice of his profession when he was drawn into the political vortex. Louis Joseph Papineau, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly since the year 1817, had been flaming like a portentous meteor in the troubled sky of Canadian polities. Under his influence Cartier fell as did a majority of French-Canadians. By the Constitutional Act, in 1791, Canada was divided into two parts known as Upper and Lower Canada. A Legislature was, by the Act, established in each Province. It consisted of a House of Assembly and a Legislative Council. The people elected the Assembly; and the Crown nominated the Council. Then followed a long conflict between the two Chambers, between the French and the English, between demagogues on the one hand and office-holders on the other. It was a very much mixed up contest, and right was sometimes on the one side and sometimes on the other. In the end, the Rebellion of 1837 broke out. Cartier sided with Papineau.

After the defeat of the rebels a reward was offered for the apprehension of the leading participants, and although Cartier was not mentioned in the list he fled to the United States. He afterwards returned home secretly and remained in hiding for a time. His seclusion was not of very long duration, however. An intimation from the authorities assured him that on presenting himself in public he would not be arrested. The promise was faithfully kept.

For nearly ten years after this escapade M. Cartier took no active part in public life. In 1848, yielding to the pressure of his friends, he was returned to Parliament as the representative of his native County of Verchères.

In 1855, he was appointed Provincial Secretary in the Conservative Cabinet of Sir Allan McNab. He was not eager for office and had previously declined the Commissionership of Public Works. In 1857 M. Cartier began his first session as Attorney-General of Lower Canada in place of Mr.

CHAPTER XXIII.

HON. GEORGE BROWN.

BY WILLIAM BUCKINGHAM.

A Busy Life Shortened by a Tragic Death—The Uncrowned King of Upper Canada—Supreme in the Command of His Own Party—Forces upon Mr. John A. Macdonald the Temporary Peace which was the Prelude to Confederation—An Untiring Worker—Peter and George Brown Establish “The Banner” in Toronto—George Brown Becomes the Ally of the Liberal Ministers—Founds “The Globe”—Makes an Enemy of Rev. Dr. Egerton Ryerson—The Character of his Editorial Work—An Intensely Earnest Writer—A Man of Great Truth and Honesty—Makes Enemies of the Roman Catholics by His Attacks on the Pope and His Institutions—Elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1851—Gains Tory Hostility by His Defence of the Rebellion Losses Bill—A Staunch Advocate of Free Trade—Advocates the Secularization of the Clergy Reserves—The “Double Shuffle”—George Brown One of the Great Fathers of Confederation—Defeated in South Oxford in 1867—Accepts Nomination to the Upper Chamber—Declines Knighthood—His Assassination—His Untimely Death,

IN the person of George Brown, a busy and agitated life was shortened by a tragic death. But though it was a death that came from violence, he had not the satisfaction, poor though that might be, of feeling in his long resulting illness that it was occasioned by his services to the country. The assassins of McGee, Lincoln, and Garfield, made pretence of public motives for their action, but the misguided man who shot George Brown did it merely to avenge an imaginary and petty personal wrong. Mr. Brown had passed the meridian span of life with the turmoil and strife of his earlier years, and there are good grounds for believing that he had gladly sought to obtain a measure of retirement and repose amidst scenes and influences more congenial to his chastened and subdued spirit, perhaps also to his better nature, when in this wretched manner his death came. Those of his own generation, then still largely to the fore, but since that time mostly passed away, who attended his funeral to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory, and who had been stirred by him in their younger days as few men



..... MUSKETEER AT THE SIEGE OF LOUISBOURG

THE HON. SIR JOHN BEVERLEY ROBINSON



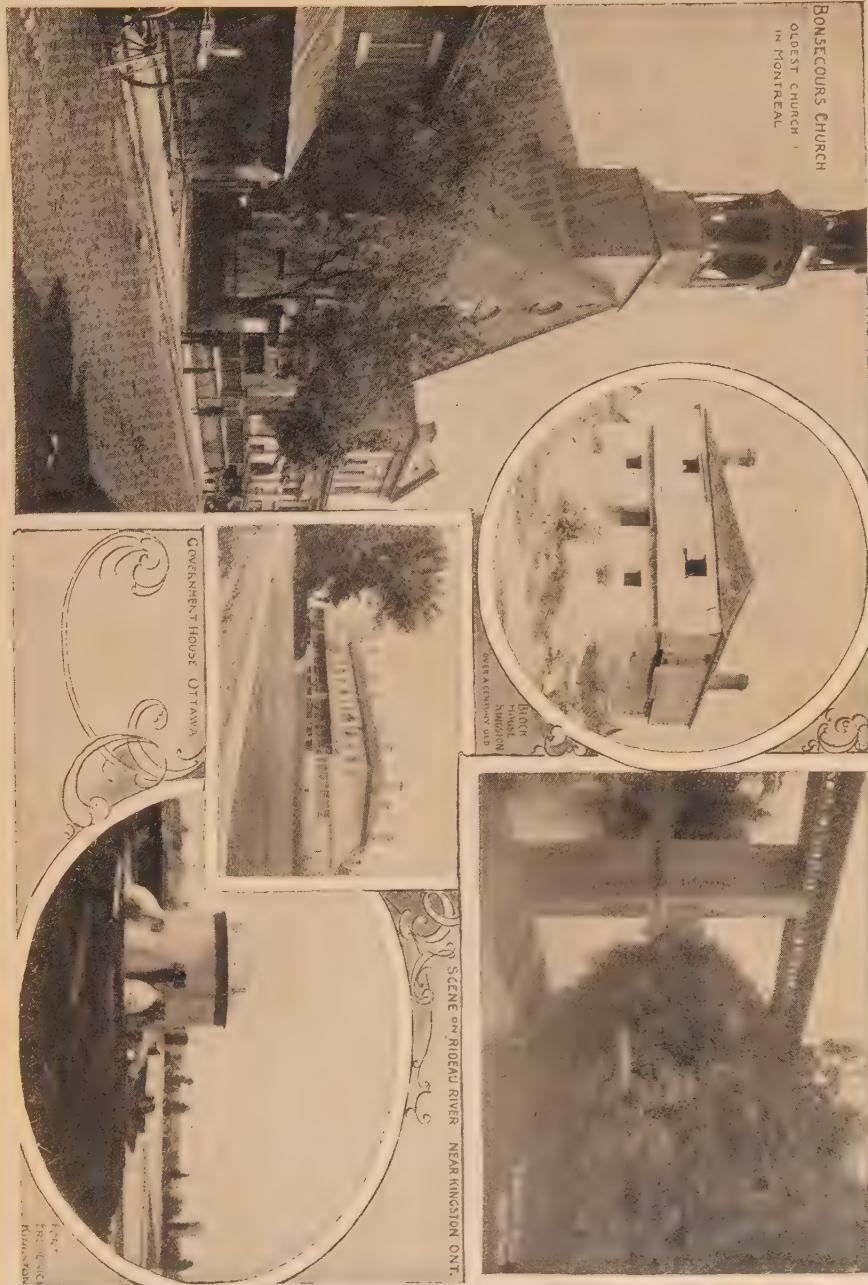
CHARLES POULETT THOMSON, FIRST LORD SYDENHAM

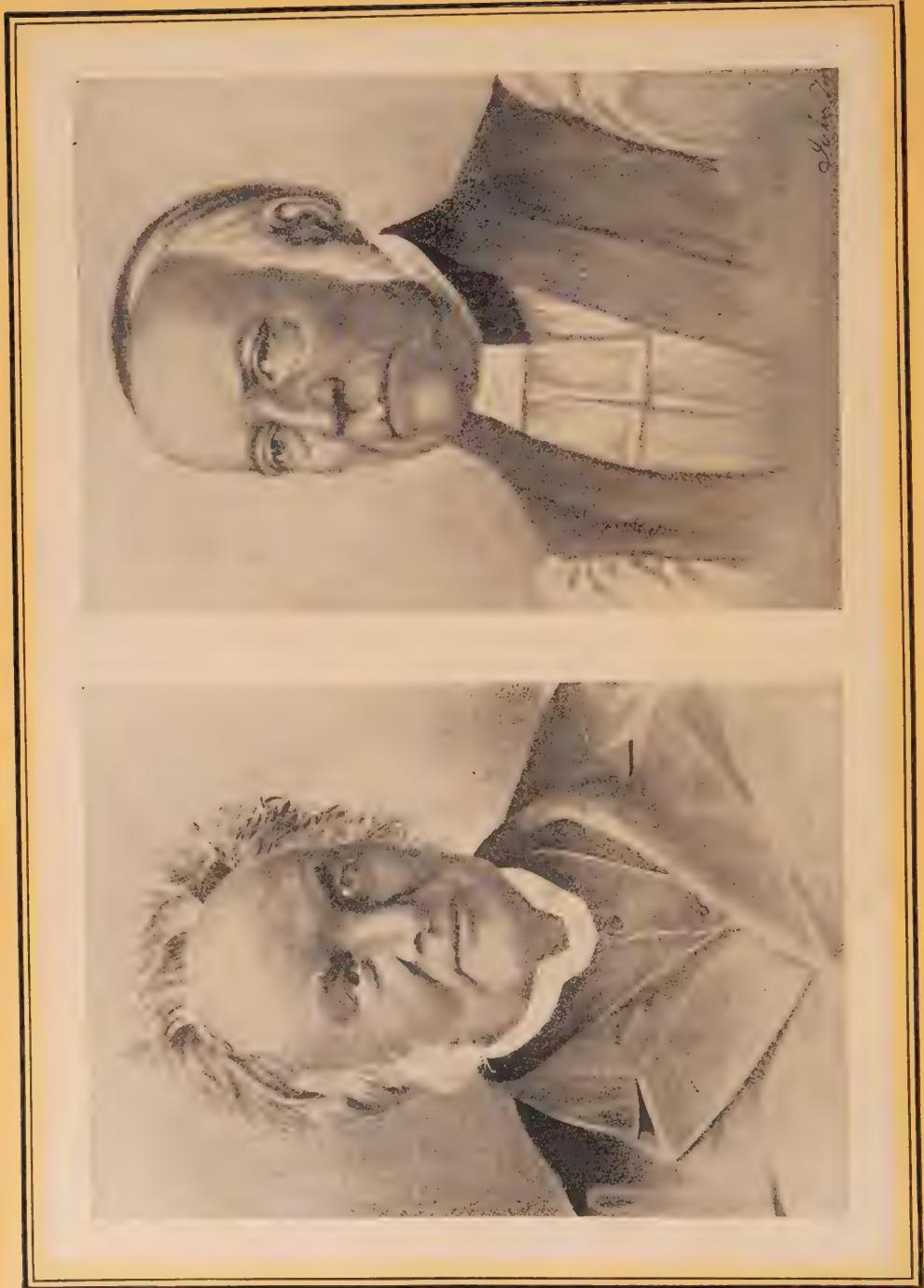




MAISONEUVE MONUMENT, MONTREAL

PLACES OF INTEREST IN OLD AND NEW CANADA





THE RT. REV. DR. JOHN STRACHAN

THE REV. EGERTON RYERSON, D.D.

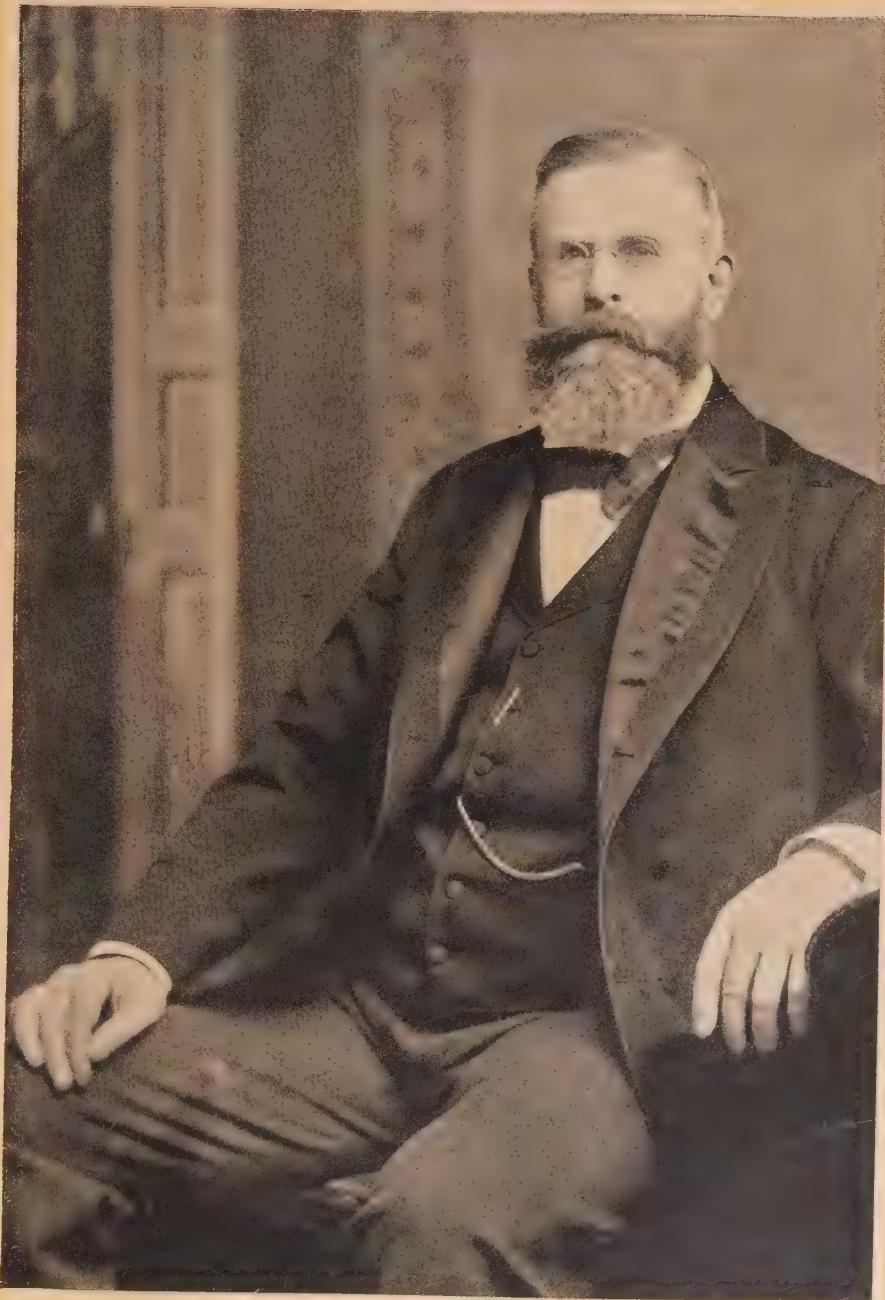
SIR SAMUEL CUNARD, BART.



HON. JOSEPH HOWE

FRANÇOIS DE LAVAL DE MONTMORENCY





THE HON. WILLIAM MULOCK, K.C., LL.D., M.P.



JAMES BRUCE, EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE

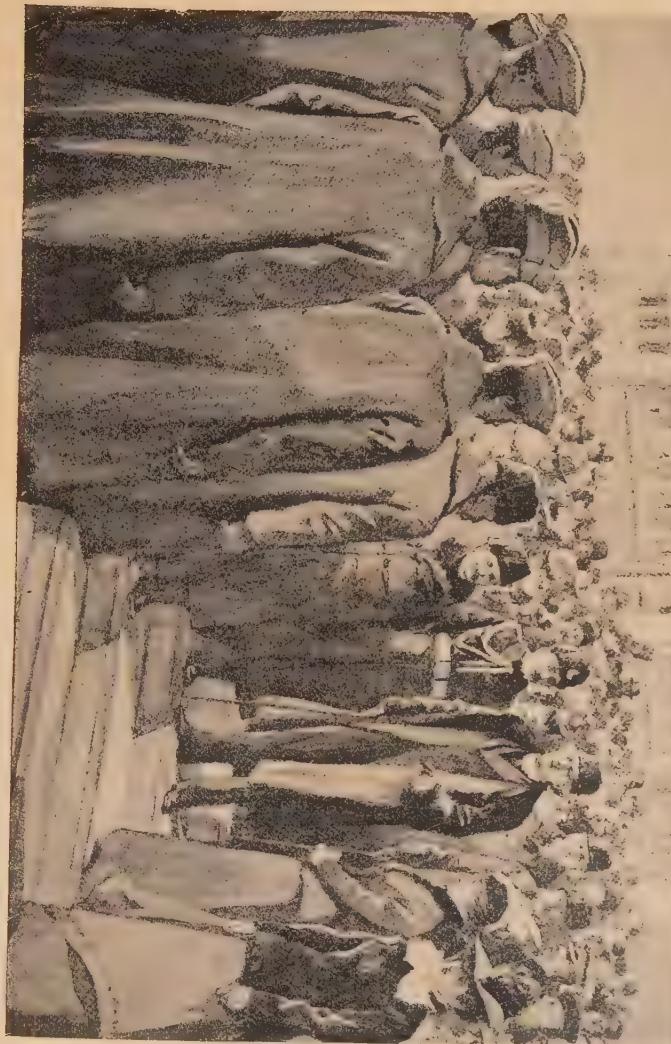


MONUMENT AT OTTAWA TO SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD



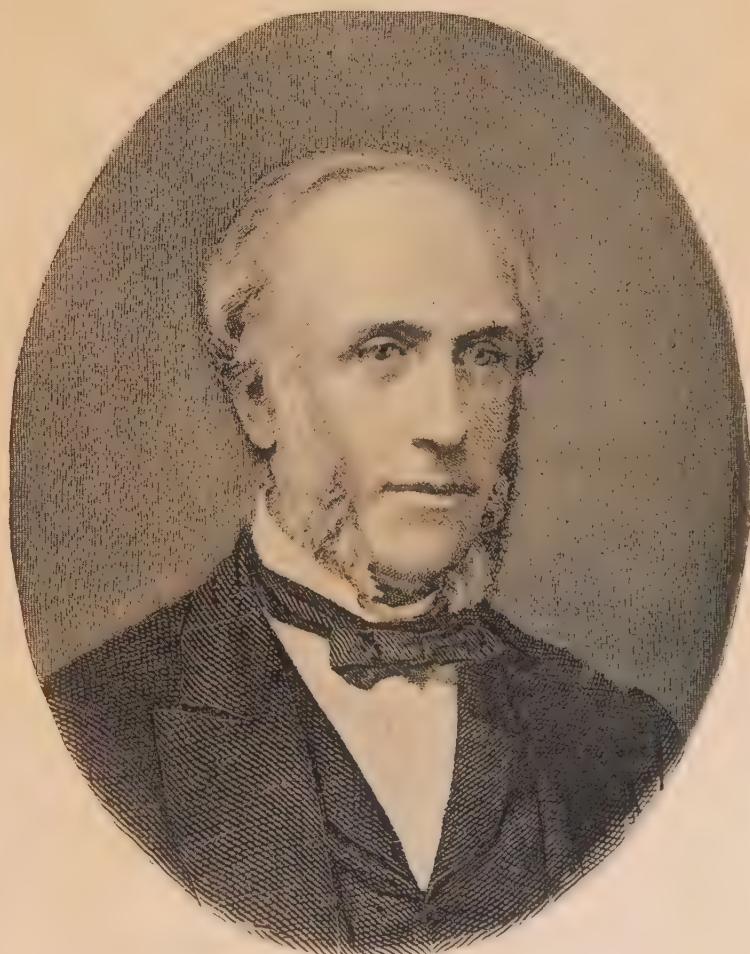
THE RT. HON. SIR WILFRID LAURIER

THE DEPARTURE OF STRATHCONA'S HORSE FOR SOUTH AFRICA





THE RT. HON. SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD, G.C.B.



THE HON. GEORGE BROWN



SIR WILLIAM C. VAN HORNE

could stir a people, while thinking again of his exploits, heard once more the trumpet notes of his calls to battle high sounding above the solemn dirges that followed him to the grave. There had been in Canada before his time, there has been in the broader Canada he helped to make, no political warrior with equal power to sound those notes so loud and clear.

In 1857, when the writer of this sketch first came to know him, and an acquaintance was formed in his service which continued to the close, Mr. Brown was in the heyday of his prodigious strength and influence. He had reached the zenith of his physical and mental power, and was being borne on by the elasticity of his mind and character, and the buoyant spirit of the young, and fast developing, and resourceful western counties of the Province at his back, towards political heights he clearly saw, though he was enabled to scale them but once, and then for a mere moment to retain his foothold.

At that period he was the uncrowned king—the self-constituted champion of the rights of Upper Canada—a championship which very few in his own party ever dreamt of questioning. One there was who in an unguarded moment at the Toronto Convention of 1867 hinted at the fear of a dictatorship. The mere suggestion was enough. The mutinous member went no further. Mr. Brown was down upon him with his disciplinary lash at once. He said: "I scorn the imputation. I stand here at the end of twenty-five years' service to the Reform party, and I defy any man to show the first act of selfishness of which I have ever been guilty with reference to that party. I defy any man to point to one word that has ever crossed my lips, as the representative of the people—one motion I ever made—one speech I ever delivered—one vote I ever gave—which is not in harmony with the principles of the Reform party of Upper Canada." The *emeute*, if any were intended, stopped right there. It had previously been manifested in the disobedience to orders of Mr. Brown's colleagues in the coalition Government, Mr. McDougall and Mr. Howland, who refused to retire with their leader when he gave the signal, and who faced him on the platform on the occasion of that great gathering. But their incitement to rebellion was brought at the outset to an inglorious end. Mr. Brown was supreme in command of his own forces, and it is probably because he was so well able at that time to keep

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE RIGHT HON. SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD.

BY DAVID CREIGHTON.

Sir John A. Macdonald for fifty years the Leading Parliamentarian in Canada—Of Scotch Parentage—Educated at Kingston—Begins the Study of Law—His Early Associations with Oliver Mowat—His Defence of Von Shoultz—Enters the Political Arena as a Tory—A Life-Long Imperialist—In 1847 Appointed Receiver-General—Opposes Rebellion Losses Bill—Endeavors to Have Seat of Government Moved to Kingston—Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Brown—Attitude of “The Globe”—Introduces a Bill for the Secularization of the Clergy Reserves—Leader in the Assembly—Called on by the Governor-General to Form a Ministry—Ottawa Chosen as the Seat of Government—The “Double Shuffle”—The Trent Affair—A Dead-Lock in the Canadian Parliament—A Federal Union Proposed—Preliminary Steps Towards Confederation—John A. Macdonald, a Leader in the Confederation Movement—Receives Knighthood—The Building up of the Great Dominion—Difficulties between the United States and Canada—The Treaty of Washington Ratified—Made an Imperial Privy Councillor—The Canadian Pacific Railway Projected—Mr. L. S. Huntington’s Charges against the Government—Sir John out of Office—Once More in Power—His Cabinet—The National Policy—Holds the Confidence of the Canadian People—His Last Great Triumph and His Death—The Empire Mourns Canada’s Greatest Statesman.

TO give a sketch of the career of one who during well-nigh half a century took an active part, and for the greater portion of that time the leading part, in the Parliamentary government of Canada, who exercised a most potent share in moulding the destiny of the Dominion and occupied a more conspicuous position before the public than any other Canadian statesman,—is practically to write the history of Canada during that period. Within the limits to which the present work necessarily confines me only the more prominent features in the career of the Right Hon. Sir John Alexander Macdonald, P. C., G. C. B., can therefore be touched upon.

Although of an ancient Highland family, his parents, Hugh Macdonald and Helen Shaw, had removed from Dornoch, in Sutherlandshire, to Glasgow, when John Alexander, their second son, was born on the 11th of January, 1815. Mr. Hugh Macdonald, not thriving in Glasgow, resolved to try his fortune in

the then wilderness of Upper Canada, whither he emigrated with his young family in 1820, when the future Prime Minister was but five years of age. After a brief residence in Kingston he removed to Adolphustown, in the county of Lennox, to start shop-keeping, subsequently going across the Bay to the Stone Mills in Prince Edward County, where for some years he kept a grist-mill. But ill-success seems to have dogged his footsteps wherever he went and, eventually, he returned to Kingston broken down in health and died there in 1836. Of the early days of young Macdonald little need be said more than that they were spent around the romantic shores of the beautiful Bay of Quinte. At the age of fifteen, after such common-school education as those early days afforded, and a brief career at the Kingston Grammar School, he had to leave school in order to help in the support of the family, and commence to fight his way up to an eminence not hitherto attained by any Colonial statesman. Choosing the profession of law, he entered as a student the office of Mr. George Mackenzie of Kingston, being called to the Bar in 1836 when he was twenty-one. He immediately commenced to practise his profession in Kingston. His office was but a few months opened when there came as a student to him a lad named Oliver Mowat, and subsequently another named Alexander Campbell, and it is often thought of as a remarkable fact that the three young men thus associated in their early days should all have become eminent in Canadian politics, and each be knighted by her Majesty for services to the Empire. Sir Alexander Campbell, after a lengthy career as a member of the Government of Canada, passed away while holding the position of Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. Sir Oliver Mowat, after the unparalleled record of nearly a quarter of a century, uninterruptedly, in the Premiership of Ontario, contributed largely to the final success of his party in Dominion politics by joining them in that arena, becoming for a brief time Minister of Justice on the formation of the Laurier Cabinet, afterward spending his declining years as Lieutenant-Governor of his native Province. Meanwhile the one-time tutor in law of the other two had gone to his rest after a public career of nearly half a century, during which he had achieved a prominence, not only in Canada but in the Empire at large, such as no other British statesman outside the British Isles had ever attained.

Many stories are yet told by the old inhabitants of Kingston of the young lawyer, whose genial ways, added to his cleverness, had early won him popularity and business. But the chief incident of his legal career was the defence of Von Shoultz for his participation in the rebellion of 1837-8, or rather in the raid from the United States which took place in connection with it. A number of misguided Americans, who imagined that they had only to show themselves on Canadian soil to be joined by a population groaning under oppression and ready to cast off the yoke of the British, made a dash across the St. Lawrence, took possession of a windmill near Prescott, and kept it for several days till surrounded by the British forces. Von Shoultz, a young Polish gentleman, who too late regretted having been misled, was, with other leaders, tried by court-martial for the offence and was defended by Mr. Macdonald. There was not much chance for defence, as Von Shoultz pleaded guilty, and, with nine others, suffered the extreme penalty of the law, but his connection with the case added to the rising fame of the young lawyer. With such stirring events taking place in Canada, it was natural that a young man possessed of the double qualifications of talent and ambition should turn his attention to politics, and the zest for a political career was heightened by the seat of Government, at that time itinerant, being moved to Kingston in 1841. Although he had served as Alderman for Frontenac Ward in the Kingston City Council, it was not till 1844, when the Draper Ministry—succeeding to office when Messrs. Baldwin and Lafontaine had resigned on account of their quarrel with the Governor, Sir Charles Metcalfe—appealed to the people, that Mr. Macdonald entered the political arena. In the general election he consented to contest Kingston against Mr. Manahan. He entered political life as a Tory. What afterwards became known as the Liberal-Conservative party, resulting from a fusion of factions, and practically the creation of Mr. Macdonald himself, had no existence at that time.

It would be unjust to the memory of the Reformers of those days to say that any considerable portion of them favoured a severance of Canada from the British Empire; but the Provinces had recently passed through a rebellion in which foreigners from the United States had been invited to an

both at Ottawa and Kingston, were such as will never be forgotten by those who witnessed them. Not alone was it an immense concourse poured in from all parts of Canada to pay their last token of respect to the dead Chieftain, but it was a touching tribute to the personal character of Sir John and the never varying kindness and consideration with which he had treated all with whom he came in contact; and which won him such a place in the affections of the people; that thousands in all stations in life and from all parts of Canada, who saw him laid to rest in Cataraqui Cemetery, felt that they were taking leave not merely of a great statesman but of a warm personal friend whose memory they would long cherish.

The newspapers of the United States joined with those of Canada and Great Britain in tributes to the dead statesman, in which former opponents freely recognized the great work he had done—the Chicago *Herald* epitomising the general voice of the press when it said: “With Sir John Macdonald’s death passes away one of the most heroic figures of the time. He was a born leader of men, a shaper of policies, and a maker of history! Rarely, if ever, has the career of a single statesman been to a nation what the career of Sir John Macdonald was to Canada. He entered public life with the provinces numerically weak, with undeveloped resources and torn by internal dissensions, and he did not lay down his charge till he had seen dissensions largely healed; British power on the American continent consolidated from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Great Lakes to the Arctic Ocean; the great natural resources of this vast region rapidly developing; a deep system of waterways penetrating from the Atlantic to the heart of the continent almost completed for large vessels; Canada standing high among the nations of the world for its merchant marine; and a magnificent highway across the continent, the building of which challenged the admiration of the world, and which is destined more and more to become the great line of communication between Europe and the Orient. That others from time to time took their parts and are entitled to share in the credit for what has been accomplished may be freely conceded, but history will record that to the energy, genius and guidance of Sir John Macdonald is Canada pre-eminently indebted for the position she occupies to-day.

CHAPTER XXV.

HON. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE.

Alexander Mackenzie the First Great Liberal Premier of Canada—Of Typical Scotch Parentage—A Toiler from His Earliest Days—Apprenticed as a Stone-Cutter—In the Land of Burns—Joins the Baptist Communion—Decides to Emigrate to Canada—Arrives at Quebec on the “Monarch”—Decides to Locate at Kingston—At Work as a Builder—Cheated out of His Summer’s Wages—A Winter in the Back Woods—A Contractor and Foreman on Public Works—Marries Helen Neil—Makes His Home in Sarnia—Death of His Wife—Takes an Interest in Politics—Editor of the “Lambton Shield”—Marries Jane Sym—Elected to Parliament—An Able Debater—Prophesies Evil to Liberals from the Formation of the Coalition Government—Takes Part in the Confederation Debates—His Prophesies Fulfilled—Advocates Vigorous Policy in the North West Rebellion of 1870—Provincial Treasurer of Upper Canada—The Campaign of ’72—The “Pacific Scandal”—Mr. Mackenzie Called on to Form an Administration—His Campaign—His Career as Premier—Visits Scotland—Sir Charles Tupper’s National Policy—The Election of ’78—In Opposition—Feels Deeply the Death of George Brown—In Poor Health—Once More Visits the Old World—Mr. Laurier Becomes Leader of the Liberal Party—Death of Alexander Mackenzie.

The career of Alexander Mackenzie, the first great Liberal Premier of Canada, admirably illustrates how the humblest citizen of this country may rise to the most exalted position in the gift of the nation.

Like many others of the leading men of Canada, such as Sir John A. Macdonald, George Brown and Lord Strathcona, he was of Scotch parentage. He was the son of Alexander Mackenzie and Mary Stewart Fleming, and was born at Logierait on Monday, January 28, 1822. His father, a carpenter and ship-joiner by trade, was, during the greater part of his life, in poor circumstances, and, to provide for his numerous family, was forced to move from place to place in his native land in search of work. After the birth of his son Alexander, and before his death in 1836, he had been a resident of Perth, of Pitlochary and Dunkeld. He was a typical Scotch father, the father immortalized in Burns’ *Cottar’s Saturday Night*, and it was from him that his son inherited much of his austerity of character and high sense of right. His mother was of superior family; her father had been destined for

the army, but seems to have had no liking for the calling and settled down in a remote part of Scotland, where he acted as schoolmaster and session clerk. No doubt the future Premier of Canada inherited from his grandfather on his mother's side that intellectual power that early made him one of the ablest public men in Canada, and that literary grace which makes the descriptive passages in his letters such interesting reading.

The early life of Alexander Mackenzie was like that of hundreds of other Scotch lads who have become distinguished in business, in politics and in literature. As soon as he was able he had to assist in earning the daily bread for the family, and when but ten years old we find him on the hillside employed as a herd-laddie. This work, of course, he did only in the summer season and in the winter months he attended school. When but thirteen years old he left school altogether. His early life was one of labor, and at sixteen he worked in the fields at the plow.

On account of the circumstances of his family and his environment, however ambitious he may have been, he could not hope to enter any of the learned professions. A mere day-laborer he would not be, and so he apprenticed himself to John Ireland, of Dunkeld, as a stone-cutter. Thus the man who was to be one of the builders of the Dominion began his life in earnest as a hewer of stone for the bridges and dwellings of his native land. His brothers were likewise to be workers; Robert and Hope became carpenters and cabinet-makers, John a tin and coppersmith and Adam a druggist. Alexander made rapid progress at his trade, and in 1841, before he had reached his twentieth birthday we find him at Irvine employed as a journeyman stone-cutter.

He was now in the region that Burns had immortalized, and the inspiration of his surroundings and a somewhat close study of many of the poet's immortal verses did much to shape his character. Burns' love of nature, Burns' sympathy with the poor, Burns' passion for Liberty took possession of him. It was about this time, too, that he began to take an interest in the history of his country, and in the great movements that were

stirring the nation. He was in sympathy with the Chartists, and took part in some of their debates, but was never an extremist, and disapproved of many of the tactics of the leaders in the movement.

From boyhood Alexander Mackenzie was, in religious matters, broad-minded and tolerant. He was a Presbyterian by birth, but while at Irvine was in daily contact with a number of earnest Baptists and under their influence joined the Baptist Church. No doubt, the cold austerity of the Presbyterian Church of his time made him turn for spiritual communion to this newer and more liberal-minded body, but he ever had an affection for the Church of his boyhood days, and towards the end of his life this affection seems to have increased.

The young stone-mason spent only a short year at Irvine, but in that year the whole course of his future life was shaped; his mind was aroused by his study of Burns in the land of Burns; he began to take an interest in the great social and political questions of his time; and here he got his religious bent. Here, too, he fell in with a family by the name of Neil. The father and eldest son were stone-cutters, and he formed a strong friendship with them, but a still stronger friendship with Helen Neil, a Scotch lass but seventeen years old.

The Neils were dissatisfied with their lot in the Old World. Work could not always be obtained and when obtained the laborer's wage was barely sufficient to support life. At that time Canada was attracting a good deal of attention in Scotland, and the Neils thought they might better their condition by going to the New World. As soon as they had definitely concluded to pursue this course Alexander Mackenzie determined to accompany them, attracted, no doubt, by the opportunities the New World would present to his ambitious spirit, but also drawn across the Ocean by the magnet, Helen Neil. The party took passage on the ship "Monarch," sailing from Greenock, and after a voyage of a month's duration arrived safely in the St. Lawrence.

Alexander Mackenzie had been a reader and knew something of the history of the country he was about to make his home, and when the "Monarch" touched at Quebec he visited the points of interests in that historic old city; saw where the great battle of the Plains of Abraham had been

fought, where Wolfe fell, and, from the rugged height, drank in the beauty of the majestic river and the grandeur of the mighty hills along its banks. The few hours he remained at Quebec made him a Canadian, and he ever after had an affectionate regard for the country where he was making his permanent home. On May 6 he reached Montreal. He was offered work in that city, but the wages were not as high as he expected, and, as he learned that building operations were being carried on on an extensive scale in what was then the western part of Canada, he decided to proceed to the region of the Great Lakes. He seems now to have been the leading spirit in the Neil party, and it was he who made arrangements with the captain of a batteau to take the family to Kingston.

When he reached Kingston he found that work was not as well remunerated as he had anticipated, and that living was much more expensive than in the eastern part of Canada ; however, he had to make the best of the situation and looked about for employment. He found that the tools he had brought with him were too soft to work the hard stone used in Kingston and he was not rich enough to buy a new set. However, he could not remain idle and engaged himself as a builder, and a proficient one he made. He worked industriously through his first summer in Canada, but had the misfortune to be swindled out of almost his entire pay. Towards the end of the summer he received a promissory note for his wages from the contractor for whom he worked, and had the pleasure of keeping that note to the end of his life.

He was disheartened by his first experience, but determined to make an effort in a new line. Like many another young Scotchman, seeking wealth in America, he believed that if he owned a little farm he might be able in time to become a rich landed proprietor. Mr. Mowat, the father of Sir Oliver Mowat, took an interest in the young stone-mason, who had been cheated out of his hard-earned wages, and hearing of his desire for a farm offered him one on liberal terms about twenty-two miles from Kingston. It was in a thick woods; indeed in the heart of the forest primeval. On it was a log

action of the Lieutenant-Governor. This was followed by a recommendation to the Governor-General that the Lieutenant-Governor be dismissed; but before acting upon this recommendation, it was determined to refer the whole question of the constitutionality of the dismissal of M. Letellier to the Home Government. For this purpose, Sir Hector Langevin and Mr. Abbott were appointed delegates to lay the matter before the Colonial Minister. They proceeded to England and remained there during a period of three months, while the subject was under discussion. . . . While in England, and on this occasion, Sir Hector Langevin and Mr. Abbott conducted several matters of importance for the Canadian Government, among which were measures relating to the admission and transport of cattle from the United States, through Canada, which have been successfully continued to the present day.

Mr. Abbott's connection with the Canada Central Railway, besides tending to direct his thoughts towards the great Pacific transcontinental scheme, led to his ultimately becoming the purchaser of a share in the whole Canada Central enterprise, Mr. Duncan MacIntyre being the principal owner. Under the energetic management of the latter gentleman, the construction of the Canada Central was pushed forward towards North Bay, and, in the spring of 1880, the road being nearly completed, and the scheme of Mr. Mackenzie's Government not appearing likely to be in any degree successful, Mr. MacIntyre and Mr. Abbott discussed the possibility of forming a company to construct the Pacific Railway from North Bay. It was thought feasible that it might be brought on from that point to a junction with a portion of the railway which the Mackenzie Government had begun near the Pacific coast, taking in the link that had also been begun by that Government between Port Arthur and Winnipeg in March, 1880. A suggestion to this effect was conveyed to Sir John Macdonald, which was prepared by Mr. Abbott, and signed by Mr. MacIntyre. The latter gentleman communicated at the same time with Messrs. George Stephen, James J. Hill, of St. Paul, Sir Donald Smith, Mr. Kennedy, of New York, and Mr. R. B. Angus, and finally obtained their concurrence in the project which had been submitted to the Government. An informal intimation was received that the project was

looked upon as possible, but that it should be presented to European capitalists with the view of obtaining the best possible terms for the Government. As is now generally known, Sir John Macdonald and Mr. Pope proceeded to England, and negotiations took place with several parties, but finally the Canadian Syndicate, strengthened by the addition of Sir John Rose of London and Baron Reinach of Paris, came to an understanding with the Government as to the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

On the return of Sir John Macdonald to Canada in the autumn the negotiations were pursued. The syndicate chiefly represented by Mr. Stephen, Mr. MacIntyre and Mr. Abbott, with the frequent concurrence of the Canadian and American members, entered upon more detailed negotiations with the Government. A draft, prepared by Mr. Abbott, of the proposed contract was submitted. This formed the basis of subsequent negotiations, and in the main formed the contract provisionally agreed upon, and, after two months' constant discussion, was signed in October, 1880. A special session of Parliament was called in order that the matter should be put through in time to start the work vigorously in the spring. The necessary legislation was completed, the Company incorporated and the contract finally signed on the 17th of February, 1881. Immediately afterwards Mr. Stephen, Mr. MacIntyre, Mr. Angus and Mr. Abbott went to England to make the necessary financial arrangements for the Company. The members of the syndicate were elected the Directors of the Company, and Mr. Abbott was appointed standing Counsel. From that time forth until the completion of the road he took an active part in all its transactions and management, including its financial arrangements and issues, the preparation of its legislation, and the organization of its various combinations and acquisitions of existing railways. In fact, though not a stockholder, being precluded from holding stock by the existing Parliament, he took the same active interest in the enterprise as if he had been a member of the syndicate. During this period, though, he continued to be a member of Parliament, he scrupulously avoided acting in his public capacity in any matter affecting the Pacific Railway, never having voted or spoken on any of its measures. For some time he was excused from voting on his own statement

of his interest in the Company, which he invariably took occasion to make, when a question relating to it came before Parliament. But as he could not state that he was directly, pecuniarily interested in the Company, and therefore found that he might be forced to vote, he took the course of leaving the House whenever a Canadian Pacific measure came before it. Though universally recognized as one of the most active promoters and workers in the Canadian Pacific Railway enterprise, it was never imputed to Mr. Abbott, in the warmest political controversy, that he used his political influence in any way to further the undertaking.

The success of this magnificent Canadian highroad to the Pacific was in no small degree furthered by the work of Mr. Abbott in the department of its organization in which he laboured, and his name is always associated with the promoters of this great national enterprise. Upon the completion of the railway across the continent, the disqualification caused by the holding of stock in the Company was removed, and Mr. Abbott then acquired stock in it and was elected one of its Directors, and retained this position until he resigned upon accepting the appointment of Prime Minister of Canada. In 1887, Mr. Abbott was elected Mayor of Montreal by a majority of about 2,000 votes over his opponent, Mr. Rainville. In 1888 he was re-elected by acclamation, and in the same year was appointed President of the Corporation of the Royal Victoria Hospital, an institution which had recently been founded and endowed with about \$1,000,000 by the munificence of two citizens of Montreal, Lord Mount-Stephen and Sir Donald A. Smith, in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee. The construction of the stately Hospital buildings, costing \$500,000. has been proceeded with under Mr. Abbott's supervision as President, and they now form one of the most striking architectural ornaments of a city already rich in imposing edifices, both public and private. The buildings were designed by Saxon Snell, Esq. of London, who has a continental reputation for the designing of hospital buildings.

In 1888, Mr. Abbott was appointed a Commissioner to negotiate with Australia for closer trade relations and cable communication—for which position his knowledge of commercial, legal and diplomatic subjects eminently

fitted him. He made his preparations for his Australian mission ; but the movement for Confederation began and seemed likely to be successful, and it was thought best to delay his departure till power in such matters should be concentrated by the union of the Australasian provinces. After Mr. Abbott's retirement from the House of Commons he was offered by Sir John Macdonald a seat in the Senate, with the leadership of that body and a membership of the Privy Council. These marks of confidence he accepted in the winter of 1887-88, and, until the 13th of June, 1891, continued to act as leader of the Senate and member of the Privy Council without remuneration or portfolio. At the beginning of the session of 1891, he was invited by Sir John Macdonald to accept the portfolio of President of the Council, retaining his position in the Senate, and, though his appointment was not actually made he performed the duties of that office until the lamented death of Sir John Macdonald in June, 1891. On the 13th of that month Mr. Abbott accepted the trust, committed to him by his Excellency the Governor-General, as Prime Minister of Canada, and he was called, on the Tuesday following, to proceed with the business of the country before Parliament, without any break in its continuity or any change in its policy. His former colleagues, with great unanimity, consented to continue to occupy their former positions in the Cabinet, and although the Session of 1891 was one of the most arduous which Canada has yet seen, and presented constant and ever-increasing difficulties to the Government, in consequence of the numerous administrative errors and offences which were disclosed in Committees of the House of Commons, the Conservative party presented an unbroken front throughout the Session, and the affairs and legislation of the country proceeded without material interruption.

With the aid of Sir John Thompson in the House of Commons Mr. Abbott carried the Government through struggles of great parliamentary severity, but in the celebrated bye-elections of 1892 had the satisfaction of receiving a marked evidence of popular approval. His health, unfortunately, had been poor for years, and only a strong sense of duty to the party could

which he has to deal, and that he seeks to divest himself wholly of all possible prepossessions before making a judgment. He has shown that he has courage, though it is not the courage to overcome his convictions; and this courage must have been strengthened in him by his early training.

Of his skill in debate the young man gave early indications in the debating clubs of Halifax, where he gained a reputation as one before whom greater triumphs lay when he should seek distinction in wider fields. In 1859, he was articled as a student-at-law in the office of Mr. Henry Pryor, who was afterwards Stipendiary Magistrate in Halifax. He had already made himself a skilled stenographer and he now turned his skill to account in reporting the debates in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly. In the official reports of the debates of that Legislature for the year 1867, which the curious may find for the seeking on the shelves of the Library of Parliament, Mr. John George Bourinot, now the learned clerk of the House of Commons, who was the Official Reporter, makes acknowledgment in his preface of the assistance of Mr. John S. D. Thompson. In the following year, the preface to the official debates had the signature of Mr. Thompson, who had succeeded to the place of Reporter-in-Chief. During the four following sessions he continued to report the debates. These years of service on the floor of the Legislative Chamber of his native Province were of advantage to him in giving a thorough and ready knowledge of the procedure of Parliament and a complete acquaintance with the politics and political leaders of the time, which stood him in excellent stead when he himself became a member of the House of Assembly.

He was called to the Bar in July, 1865, in his twenty-first year. Five years later he married Miss Annie Affleck, the daughter of Captain Affleck, of Halifax. A year later he became a convert to the Roman Catholic Church. In the practice of his profession he was notably successful from the beginning and before many years held the place of acknowledged leader of the Halifax Bar. In December, 1877, after having served as an Alderman and as Chairman of the Board of School Commissioners in Halifax during several previous years, he was elected at a bye-election to represent Antigonish in the Provincial House of Assembly. He brought a great accession of debating

strength to the Opposition and when the Liberal Government was overthrown in the general election of the following year—in which he stood again for Antigonish and was re-elected by acclamation—the portfolio of Attorney-General went to him as a matter of course in the new Government of which Mr. Simon H. Holmes was Leader. It was known as the Holmes-Thompson Government. On the eve of the next Provincial election he was left at its head by the retirement of Mr. Holmes, who had held the portfolio of Provincial Secretary. The Government went before the people to stand or fall by the judgment to be passed by the Province upon Mr. Thompson's Municipal Corporation Act, which incorporated each county in the province and provided for local municipal self-government (instead of the old system of government by Sessions of the Peace and by the Grand Jury), vesting the power of expenditure of the road and bridge moneys in the municipal councils, and making extensive reforms in the method of disbursing such public grants. Though a measure more to the lasting advantage of the province was never passed in the Legislature, it at once raised a storm of opposition against Mr. Thompson's Government. A thousand voices were lifted against it from a thousand stumps. The Liberals were pledged to make havoc of it if they were returned to power. Magistrates, all over the Province, whom it deprived of the share they had in governing the counties, and an army of people who had been accustomed before the Act was passed to obtain or look for appointments carrying with them the expenditure of the road and bridge moneys, fought for its appeal with all their might. After a hotly contested campaign, the Government was defeated at the polls in July, 1882, by a majority of five members. Mr. Thompson was himself again returned for Antigonish. A Liberal Government came in, and, a month or two later, he was, to the great acceptance of the Bar of the Province, appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia.

When he came out of the House of Assembly he was in his thirty-eighth year. He had been a severely honest politician; and though politics, perhaps, were not wholly congenial to him, he had won a high reputation in his Province. It was chiefly as a jurist that he had stood forth from among his colleagues in the Cabinet. Then as now, he never engaged in

CHAPTER XXVIII.

SIR MACKENZIE BOWELL.

BY J. LAMBERT PAYNE.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell a Native of England—Of Humble Parentage—Begins Work at the Age of Eleven—An Apprentice in “The Intelligencer” Office, Belleville—At Eighteen Years of Age Attends School for Six Months—Wins a Teacher’s Certificate—Returns to “The Intelligencer” Office as Foreman—Marries Miss Harriett Louisa Moore—Purchases “The Intelligencer” Plant—Establishes “The Diurnal”—In 1868 Publishes “The Daily Intelligencer”—Fond of Public Controversy—An Honest Politician—One of the Leading Citizens of Belleville—Becomes a Candidate for Political Honors in 1863—In 1867 Elected to the First Dominion Parliament—An Active Member of the Conservative Party—In 1878 Given Portfolio of Minister of Customs—In 1892 Becomes Leader of the Senate—On Death of Sir John Thompson Called to the Premiership—His Cabinet—Knighted by Her Majesty—A Prominent Orangeman—His Interest in Military Affairs—The Character of the Man—Resigns the Premiership.

IT was my privilege to know Sir Mackenzie Bowell for many years, and to serve him in a closely personal capacity during the eventful period of his Premiership, as well as for a long time anterior to that *regime*. The intimacy arising from that relationship, and the opportunities it afforded for learning his history and characteristics, make up the only excuse which can be offered for this brief biographical sketch being prepared by my hands.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell was born at Rickinghall, in Suffolk, England, on the 27th of December, 1823. His father was a builder, and, in 1833, emigrated to this country. One year later saw the boy apprenticed to Mr George Benjamin, of Belleville, to learn the trade and handicraft of a printer. He was then eleven years of age, and Mr. Benjamin’s printing office, whence *The Intelligencer* was issued, had all the inconveniences and primitive makeshifts of a country weekly in a practically pioneer settlement. The new boy started off as “printer’s devil,” and from confessions of mischievous pranks in those early days, it may fairly be assumed that the appellation in his case was not altogether misplaced. His apprenticeship took him from

his home and brought him wholly under the care of his employer—as was the custom in those times. Mr. Benjamin was a gentleman of high education and public spirit, and it is certain that he exercised a great influence in moulding the character and aspirations of his young apprentice. It is worthy of note that in succeeding years the young man followed closely in the footsteps of his kind and capable mentor; but in each capacity, whether in business, municipal affairs, social organizations, or in political life he advanced one step higher. This was purely a coincidence, for Sir Mackenzie has assured me that he neither set up Mr. Benjamin as his ideal nor sought in any way to follow in his footsteps in life. Be that as it may, the young “printer’s devil” passed through his three years’ apprenticeship, and at fourteen ranked as a journeyman. It was a proud day for him when he realized that he was a master printer and able to earn an independent livelihood. He continued with Mr. Benjamin in this capacity on *The Intelligencer* until he was eighteen years of age. He had then saved a little money, and, desiring to equip himself with a better education—although there are few schools more thorough and practical than a newspaper office—he went to the school of Mr. Thomas Agar, of Sydney, in the County of Hastings, where he spent six months in hard and earnest work with his books. Such progress did he make that at the end of his term he was given a certificate of qualification as teacher. More than that, he accepted an engagement to take charge of a school.

But he was not destined for work of that sort. It was a turning point in his life, and the turn brought him back into closer association than ever with his old friend, Mr. George Benjamin. On the Saturday preceding the week he was to begin work as a rural dominie he met his former employer and was induced to go back to *The Intelligencer* office as foreman, at the munificent salary of \$10 a month, with board and washing—which was probably as much as he would have received, in those days, as a school teacher. Six years later he was given a full partnership in the business, and on the strength of this better prospect in life, he consummated an engagement of several years with Miss Harriet Louisa Moore, and was married, December, 1847. Confidence came with experience, and, stimulated by the ambition

to rise higher, he joined with his brother-in-law in 1848, and took **the** printing property off Mr. Benjamin's hands. But Mr. Bowell's temperament and instincts of self-reliance did not fit him for a harmonious partnership, and at the end of three years he became sole proprietor of the newspaper. Thus he started in as "devil" and in sixteen years came to be absolute owner, editor and publisher. *The Intelligencer* was still continued **as a** weekly newspaper and a job printing office; but the young proprietor **was** ambitious to have it meet the growing wants of the community. Accordingly, when the first Atlantic cable had been laid, he began the publication of a little evening sheet, named the *Diurnal*, for which his subscribers paid him a York-shilling per week. It was designed to give the latest European news that flashed through the cable, and it is worthy of passing mention that the operator who received those dispatches was Mr. H. P. Dwight, the now widely-known General Manager of the Great North-Western Telegraph Company. But the *Diurnal* **was not** a paying investment, and after a time was abandoned. In 1866 the publication of the *Daily Intelligencer* was begun, and, although Sir Mackenzie ceased to have any connection with it in 1878, it has ever since continued to flourish.

Interest quite naturally centres in the genesis of Sir Mackenzie Bowell's public career. He was still a very young man when he became identified with a local debating club, and was one of its most enthusiastic and possibly pugnacious members until a little incident occurred which diverted him permanently from the mock to the real arena of discussion. The subject for debate on a particular evening was the time-worn and still unsettled question: "From which does man derive more pleasure, anticipation or realization?" and an Irish schoolmaster of the old stamp was in the chair as judge. The young printer came heavily primed for the occasion, and presented what he believed to be a convincing argument in favor of "anticipation." The old schoolmaster evidently thought the same, yet he summed up in rich Hibernian brogue as follows: "B'ys, ye have debated this soobject wid a good deal of tact and ability. The side of anticipation has the best of the argument, but as Oi belave in realisation, Oi decide that way!" This was too much for the youthful orator, and he never returned to the debating

CHAPTER XXIX.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

BY J. CASTELL HOPKINS.

Sir Charles Tupper One of the Great Leaders of the Conservative Party of British North America—The Right-Hand of Sir John A. Macdonald—Born at Amherst, Nova Scotia—The Son of a Clergyman—Educated in Nova Scotia and at the University of Edinburgh—Receives the Degree of M. D. in 1843—Practises Medicine in Nova Scotia—His Marriage—Joseph Howe his Great Rival—Defeats Howe for the Provincial Assembly in 1855—The Fighting Head of the Conservative Party in Nova Scotia—The Conservatives in Power—Tupper Appointed Provincial Secretary—Goes to London to Promote the Building of a Railway from Halifax to Quebec—Practises Medicine in Halifax—In 1864 Becomes Premier of Nova Scotia—His Part in Confederation—Becomes President of the Privy Council—Minister of Inland Revenue—Minister of Customs—Takes a Strong Interest in the Canadian Pacific Railway—In Opposition—Practises his Profession in Ottawa and Toronto—Advocates the National Policy—Minister of Public Works, Etc.—Created a K.C.M.G.—Sir Charles Tupper a Vigorous Debater—Becomes High Commissioner for Canada in London—In 1887 Appointed Minister of Finance—Returns to London as High Commissioner—Does Good Work for Canada as High Commissioner—In 1891 Helps Sir John in his Last General Election—Becomes Premier on Resignation of Sir Mackenzie Bowell—His Cabinet—His Stand on the Manitoba School Question—Defeated at the General Election—His Public Honors—One of Canada's Grand Old Men.

IN the formative period of the polities and constitution of a new country personal force is as necessary as personal *finesse*. To the Conservative party of British America in the latter half of the nineteenth century two leaders were given in the persons of Charles Tupper and John A. Macdonald, who were respectively possessed of these elements of power in a most unique and effective degree. As the years passed on and the Nova Scotia leader stretched out his hand to the great statesman of Canada in a policy of federal union, and, later on, of railway development and tariff action, a new Dominion, broadening out from sea to sea, realized the importance of this combination of personal qualities and accepted Sir Charles Tupper as the right hand of Sir John Macdonald and his probable successor in political power and

party leadership. In that period lie the most important germs of Canadian development, and around it may be seen the shadows of Provincial and National struggles in which these two men were always to the front and always in harmonized public action. Sir John Macdonald combined, in his great public career, a marvellous power of managing men with a skilled cupidity, which was also innate and instinctive, for knowing what the people wanted and how and when they wanted it. He possessed a magnetic personality which drew men to him and made the arts of an orator unnecessary. Yet these he possessed in some measure, though not in the forceful degree which made his Nova Scotia friend and colleague so valuable. He was essentially a constructive statesman and as such employed all the elements of conciliation with consummate skill. On the other hand, strength of purpose and vigour of attack, strength of policy and determined energy in its defence, strength of frame and voice and style of thought were the characteristics of Sir Charles Tupper.

Born at Amherst, Nova Scotia, on July 2, 1821, Charles Tupper was the son of the Rev. Dr. Tupper, a veteran Baptist minister and scholar of the Province. He was educated at Horton Academy, and received the degree of M.A. in course, and afterwards the honorary one of D.C.L. from Acadia College. He went to the University of Edinburgh, graduated as M.D. in 1843, and became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of the same city. Returning to Nova Scotia he practised his profession for a number of years at Amherst with eminent success. There he married, in 1846, Miss Frances Amelia Morse, and fifty years later celebrated at the capital of the Dominion, amid innumerable congratulations and the receipt of many gifts, the golden anniversary of a happy marriage. Up to 1855 Dr. Tupper took no active part in public matters, though his commanding presence, clever conversational powers and personal popularity seemed to mark him out for political preferment. Then came the moment—the turning point in fortune's fickle favour—which comes to most men at some time in their lives, and upon the issue of which, in his case, depended a future of high position and wide opportunities for good.

Joseph Howe was then the darling of the people of Nova Scotia. He was a man of such brilliant abilities, such far-seeing views, such powerful oratorical force, that had the arena been a little larger, and his field of achievement a little more important, the ranks of the English-speaking world would have rung with his name and fame. As it was he must be deemed by history a great man—despite the limitation of his life and his Provincial environment. In 1855, with all the *prestige* of popular and Liberal leadership, and his great reputation as an orator and a politician, he came to Cumberland County, where he had been previously elected in 1852, as a candidate for the Provincial Assembly in the general election. Dr. Tupper was persuaded to oppose him in the Conservative interest, and in doing so faced a running tide of public opinion in the opposite direction and the necessity of giving up much of an extensive medical practice. With all his energy, however, he threw himself into the fight, and the result of the strenuous struggle, typical of many an after contest, was a victory for the young Conservative over an eloquent veteran of many years' supremacy, and in an election during which the Province went overwhelmingly Liberal. He entered the new House with sixteen party colleagues out of fifty-two members, but with a reputation which Howe was the first to help by the statement that he had been beaten by one who would be "the leader of the Conservative party."

From that time Dr. Tupper was the fighting head of the party in the Province, although for nine years to come Hon. James W. Johnston remained the nominal leader. With his appearance in the house and residence at Halifax, which followed, a new and distinct period commenced in his career. His platform in and out of the Legislature was conciliation for sectarian issues and the building of necessary railways by and through the Government and not as a result of individual enterprise. The first won for him and his party the Roman Catholic vote; the second neutralized in a political sense the energetic transportation policy of Howe. In February, 1857, the Conservatives came into office and Dr. Tupper was appointed Provincial Secretary. Largely through his activity and initiative many important reforms were effected. The existing monopoly in mines and

minerals was abolished, the basis of popular representation in the Assembly was enlarged, the Jury law was amended and consolidated, subordinate public officers were disqualified from sitting in the Legislature, and the initiative of money votes by the Government adopted. In 1858, Dr. Tupper went to London to promote the building of a railway from Halifax to Quebec, and though the mission was not immediately successful he benefited largely by his personal intercourse with English statesmen and by discussions which arose as to the feasibility of uniting the British American Provinces in a federal union.

As a result of the elections, in the succeeding year his party in the Province was beaten, although Dr. Tupper was again chosen for Cumberland. He went into the practice of his profession in Halifax, and during the next four years also exhibited in public life that personal vigour which has always so greatly characterized him. He swept the Province with a storm of censure which resulted finally in the Conservatives winning forty out of fifty-five seats in the elections of 1863. Those were days of strong language and bitter politics, and in this school the young leader received a training which afterwards stood him in good stead in a much wider sphere. The local men, however, were not to be despised. No greater debater and platform speaker has appeared in Dominion history than Howe, and with him were men like Adams G. Archibald, Jonathan McCully and William Annand, while with Tupper were the experienced Johnston—himself a man of eloquence and ability—and rising men such as W. A. Henry, J. W. Ritchie and James McDonald. In 1864 Mr. Johnston retired to the Bench and at the age of forty-three Dr. Tupper became Premier of his native Province. During 1863 and the succeeding three years much was done in Nova Scotia indicative of a fact patent to all students of polities in British America—that Conservative administration does not mean stagnation, or indifference to the requirements of public progress.

During his administration, and by his initiative, the School law of 1864 was passed. Upon this free school legislation is based the whole educational system of Nova Scotia, and out of it has come immense benefit to people who at that time neglected the subject and seemed absolutely indifferent to the

CHAPTER XXX.

SIR JOSEPH HICKSON.

By J. Castell Hopkins.

Sir Joseph Hickson a Native of England—Trained on the English Railway Systems—Assistant General-Manager on the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway—Appointed Chief Accountant of the Grand Trunk Railway—Arrives in Canada in 1862—Becomes Secretary and Treasurer of the Grand Trunk Railway—On the Resignation of Mr. C. J. Brydges made Managing Director—Appointed General-Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway in 1874—Greatly Improves the System—In 1890 Knighted for His Good Work—Extends the Grand Trunk System to Chicago—St. Clair Tunnel Constructed—His Services Appreciated by the Company—Takes an Interest in the Civic Life of Montreal—President of the Royal Commission on the Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic—Holds Aloof from all Political Parties—Dies in January, 1897.

SIR JOSEPH HICKSON, late President of the Grand Trunk Railway, was born at Otterburn, Northumberland, England, in the year 1830, and received his education in his native county. He was yet a lad when he entered the service of the North Eastern Railway of England, in which he gained his first knowledge of railway operations—destined to stand him in such good stead in after years. After being some time with this Company, he left to fill a position of trust on the Maryport and Carlisle Railway, in which he served with credit till 1851, when he went to Manchester and took service with the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway, in which his promotion was very rapid. Ten years afterwards he became assistant to the General Manager of the Road, and while in this position attracted the attention of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Edward Watkin, then Commissioner, and afterwards Chairman of the Grand Trunk Railway in Canada. Mr. Watkin was even at that time one of the railway magnates of the day. Mr. Hickson was by him appointed to the important position of chief accountant of the Grand Trunk in December, 1861, and accordingly left England for Canada in January, 1862, coming to Montreal, where he continued to reside until his

death. His career from that date was one of uninterrupted personal success. He soon became secretary and treasurer of the Company, and this position he filled until the resignation of Mr. C. J. Brydges as Managing Director of the Grand Trunk Railway in 1874, when he succeeded him in the post of General Manager of the system.

In his new position Mr. Hickson found himself restricted by external control, but within the limitations of his power he speedily made his policy felt. One of his first acts was to sell to the Federal Government the line between Point Levis and Rivière du Loup, and with the proceeds of this he changed the old gauge to that of the American lines—four feet eight and a half inches—and effected the connection between Sarnia and Chicago. This was considered a good stroke of policy at the time, because it opened up a new field of effort and enterprise to the Company and marked the beginning of that policy of affiliation and connection which resulted, before Sir Joseph Hickson threw down the reins of office, in an immense system, embracing five thousand miles of track in the United States and Canada. As General Manager he continued until 1890, when he retired from the arduous position after receiving early in that year the honour of knighthood at the hands of Her Majesty in recognition of the ability he had displayed in the management of a great Canadian railway, and for the valuable services he had rendered to this country in the way of developing its industries and resources.

During the period of Sir Joseph Hickson's management, the Grand Trunk Railway made rapid strides, forming connections that were of infinite value, not only to the Company itself, but to Canada at large. The most marked of these was the establishment of a direct line to Chicago wholly under Grand Trunk control. By this master-stroke of policy, the best paying portion of freight carried by the Grand Trunk Railway was secured, at the same time giving to Canadian steamship companies some of the most valuable freight which they carry across the Atlantic. This extension to Chicago, on which the astute manager had had his eye for years, gave to the Grand Trunk a direct interest in the American system of railways. Under his charge, the mileage of the Grand Trunk system increased from 1,383 miles to 3,487, which fact speaks volumes for the enterprising spirit of its manager. That

CHAPTER XXXI.

SIR JOHN C. SCHULTZ.

By J. Castell Hopkins.

Sir John Schultz a Native of Ontario—Of Scandinavian Descent—A Clerk in a Country Store—Begins the Study of Medicine—Graduates from Queen's University in 1862—Settles in Red River Settlement—His Life in the West—A Close Student of the Canadian North-West—Begins Newspaper Work—Gains the Enmity of the Hudson's Bay Company—Instrumental in Bringing about the Purchase of the Territory—Imprisoned by Riel's Orders in 1869—A Thrilling Escape from Prison—Journeys to Canada—Rouses the Canadians against Riel—Returns to Winnipeg on the Suppression of the Rebellion—Elected to the Canadian Parliament for Lisgar—A Successful Speculator in Land—His Health Undermined—An Energetic Member of the Senate—Appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Manitoba—Given the Title of K. C. M. G. by Her Majesty—Dies at Mouterey, Mexico, April, 1896.

The Hon. Sir John Christian Schultz, K. C. M. G., M. D., was born in Amherstburg, Essex County, Ontario, in the year 1841. His father was of Scandinavian descent; his mother of Irish extraction. His early days gave no promise of the powerful physique and remarkable endurance developed at a later period. At school he was, in fact, rather delicate in health. He learned easily and was what Whittier describes as a "silent, shy, peace-loving" lad, who gave little sign of the self-reliance and extraordinary will which after years developed. His early education was received in part at the hands of a retired soldier. After a few years spent behind the counter of a country store, kept by his half-brother, Henry McKenney, afterwards Sheriff of Red River, young Schultz set out to qualify himself for the medical profession. In various ways he learned enough to attend Oberlin College in Ohio, for a time, and afterwards Queen's University, Kingston, graduating from the latter as an M.D. in 1862. With as little delay as possible he started for the Red River Settlement and for some years was lost sight of, except by the few with whom he corresponded. There he toiled, making out of Red River trees the planks with which he and his brother built their first

CHAPTER XXXII

LORD STRATHCONA.

The Rise of Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal—Born at Forres, Scotland—Educated at Forres—His Uncle, John Stewart, a Great Fur-Trader—Donald Smith begins the Study of Law—Accepts a Junior Clerkship in the Hudson's Bay Company—Reaches Canada at the Time of the War of 1837—Sir George Simpson Governor of the Northern Department of the Company—Sends Donald Smith to the Labrador Department—The Hard and Comfortless Journey—His Life at His New Post—Promotion After Many Years of Hardships—The Rebellion of 1870 Tests Mr. Smith's Character—Appointed Commissioner to the North-West from the Dominion Government—His Commission—A Dangerous Mission—His Report to the Secretary of State—Mr. Smith's Work in Putting Down the Rebellion—Appointed Temporary Lieutenant-Governor of the Territory—Elected to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba—Elected to the Dominion Parliament for Selkirk—His Interest in the Canadian Pacific Railway—Deserts the Conservative Party—Out of Sympathy with the Mackenzie Railway Policy—Returns to the Conservative Party—The Canadian Pacific Railway Completed—His Generous Gifts to Montreal—Knighted—Elected to Parliament for Montreal West—His Interest in the Manitoba School Question—Appointed High Commissioner for Canada—Made a Peer of the Realm—In the House of Lords—The Strathcona's Horse—A Great Empire Builder.

THE career of Donald Alexander Smith, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, gives a good illustration of the possibilities a new country affords for a man of ability, enterprise and dogged determination. His rise to influence and wealth, when it began, was rapid and kept pace with the country's prosperity ; indeed, the two worked together. Donald Smith more than any other man of business insight made Canada what she is to-day, and Canada has abundantly rewarded him for his enterprise on her behalf ; and what he has received he gives back in no stinted measure, but with a generosity and wisdom without a parallel among English philanthropists.

Lord Strathcona was born August 6, 1820, at the little town of Forres, in Scotland, the town near which Macbeth met the witches on the "blasted heath." His mother was Barbara Stewart, a woman of more than ordinary

intelligence and ambition for her children. She was familiar with the conditions of life in Canada as her brother, John Stewart, a fur-trader of renown, was one of the most striking figures in the West during the early years of the nineteenth century. He had travelled to the Pacific with Simon Fraser, the discoverer of the Fraser River, and knew thoroughly the far West and the conditions there. He was an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company and held the position of Chief Factor at Lesser Slave Lake. His sister, like the great majority of Scotch mothers, was anxious that her boy should enter one of the learned professions, but she could not refrain from sounding the praises of her brave and adventurous brother. Young Smith drank in the stories of mountain and plain, of the adventures of the fur-traders on rushing rivers and with Indian tribes, and the wonders of the West took possession of his young imagination.

He was sent to school at an early age in the town of Forres and received a fair education. He early had his mind directed towards the law, and when his education was considered sufficiently advanced he began his legal studies in the office of Mr. Robert Watson, the town clerk of his native place. He was, however, to have but a short experience of the law, for his illustrious uncle, the fur-trader, found time to pay a visit to Scotland and the whole course of Donald Smith's life was changed.

His uncle, accustomed to the freedom of the great West, no doubt had a feeling of pity for his sturdy young nephew who was spending his youthful years digging into musty tomes in a narrow law office. He knew the opportunities a young man with a vigorous constitution and intelligence had in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, and so worked on his nephew that all Donald Smith's thoughts were soon directed to America. His uncle had influence and offered him a junior clerkship in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company. Donald Smith was then but eighteen years old and with the ardour of youth made preparations for his new life in the West, which was to the minds of Europeans in the early part of the nineteenth century what darkest Africa is to-day,—a region where hardships must be endured and where prizes are won by the few but when won prove well worth the seeking.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

THE RIGHT HON. SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

By Louis Honoré Fréchette.

The Early Life of Wilfrid Laurier—His College Education—A Student of Law—For a Time a Journalist—Returns to the Study of Law—Enters the Quebec Legislative Assembly—A Brilliant Orator—Enters the House of Commons in 1874—Speaks in English with Great Power—Appointed Minister of Inland Revenue in the Mackenzie Government—The Defeat of the Mackenzie Government—Edward Blake Resigns the Leadership of Liberal Party—Laurier Chosen Leader—His Long Years in Opposition—Becomes Premier in 1896—His Cabinet—The Manitoba School Question—A New Tariff Introduced by the Liberal Party—Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee—His Foreign Policy—Appointed a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George and a Member of the Imperial Privy Council—Honored in France—His Loyal Action During the South African War—A Prominent Figure at the King's Coronation—The Characteristics of His Oratory —A Thoroughly Loyal British Subject—The Most Genial of Men.

THE present (1902) Prime Minister of the Canadian Dominion is a gentleman who not only commands a considerable degree of *prestige* in his own country, but who has also acquired a high reputation abroad. His eloquence, his ability, his exquisite social qualities, and above all his unblemished personal character as a public man, have made him prominent among the statesmen of the day, and in many respects he ranks inferior to none of them. So his friends are proud to say, and so most of his political opponents—for he has no personal enemies—certainly think. Let me briefly trace the remarkable career of this gifted contemporary who, since the month of June, 1896, has played such an important part in the destinies of our country.

Wilfrid Laurier was born on the 20th of November, 1841, at St. Lin, County of L'Assomption, in the Province of Quebec. His father was M. Carolus Laurier, a land surveyor by profession, a gentleman of limited means, but a most estimable citizen. He took his course at the nearest

College—that of L'Assomption. In 1860, we find him in Montreal on the benches of McGill, and poring over the Pandects and the *Coutume de Paris* in the law chambers of the late Rodolph Laflamme, who was afterwards his colleague, as Minister of Justice in the Mackenzie Cabinet. Having been called to the Bar in 1864, he practised his profession for two years in partnership with the noted Médéric Lanctot, that hot-headed and impetuous journalist and public speaker, who, at the time of the Confederation scheme, enjoyed a noisy popularity which was destined to change soon afterwards into a sad and undignified obscurity. The feverish restlessness of his surroundings at this time were by no means congenial to Laurier's calm and methodical temperament; and this may have been one of the reasons which induced him to leave Montreal. In 1867, the death of Eric Dorion had just occurred, and his *Défricheur*, that popular journal which so valiantly fought the battles of the Liberal party in the Eastern Townships, was also on the point of ending its career, when Lanctot's young partner started for L'Avenir, there to take up the pen which had fallen forever from the grasp of the unswerving Democrat who had hitherto wielded it with such effect. Soon enough, however, the new journalist felt that his talents demanded a different arena and he decided to again seek his fortune at the Bar. The Eastern Townships were then making rapid strides along the path of progress and prosperity, and the future statesman settled at St. Christophe—now Arthabaskaville—and it was not long before his reputation as a lawyer spread wide and far in the district.

His marked oratorical powers, his business integrity and his pleasant and kindly disposition won him a universal popularity; so much so, that in the Provincial elections of 1871 the united Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska returned him as their representative in the Quebec Legislative Assembly by an overwhelming majority. His *début* before the House produced a sensation. Who could he be, this young politician not yet thirty years of age, who thus, in a maiden speech, handled the deepest public questions with such boldness and authority? Whence had this new orator come—so fluent, cultivated and charming—who awed even his adversaries into respect by language so polished, so elevated in tone, so strong and yet so

moderate even in the heat of discussion? On the following day, the name of Laurier was on every lip. From this initial point of his stirring career, the future Prime Minister proceeded by master-strokes. Thus, as the resounding triumph of his *début* in the Legislative Assembly of Quebec had placed him in the highest rank among the most brilliant French orators of his Province, that which marked his entry into the House of Commons, in 1874, carried him at one bound to the distinction of being one of the chief English-speaking debaters of the Dominion. The occasion was a solemn one, and never to be forgotten by any of those who were present. The subject before the House was the expulsion of Louis Riel, the rebel of the North-West, who, though under accusation for the murder of Thomas Scott and a fugitive from justice, had just been elected member for Provencher. The question was a burning one and the public mind was greatly inflamed over it. It required, in very truth, a master of eloquence to take the case in hand and to thread his way without falling or stumbling among the masses and mazes of prejudice which rose up all around the Métis chief. The debate, which was violent and heated, had been going on for two days when at last Laurier took the floor.

He was known to be eloquent. He had already addressed the House in his own tongue at the opening of the Session. No one dreamed, however, that he would risk his reputation by attempting a speech in English under such hazardous and trying circumstances. Great as was the general surprise, the revelation was greater. In the belief of many who heard him that day, no orator—unless, indeed, it be himself—has since achieved a like success in any of our deliberative assemblies. As in the elegance and academic diction of which he is so thorough a master, the brilliant speaker entered calmly into the heart of his subject, a deep silence spread itself through the great Chamber and the English members listened in hushed amazement to this charmer who wielded their own language with such grace, and who dealt them such cruel home-truths in a tone they could not resist applauding. Astonished glances were exchanged on every side. Laurier kept his whole audience hanging upon his lips for more than an hour. Not for a single moment did his eloquence fail him. He expounded the doctrines and

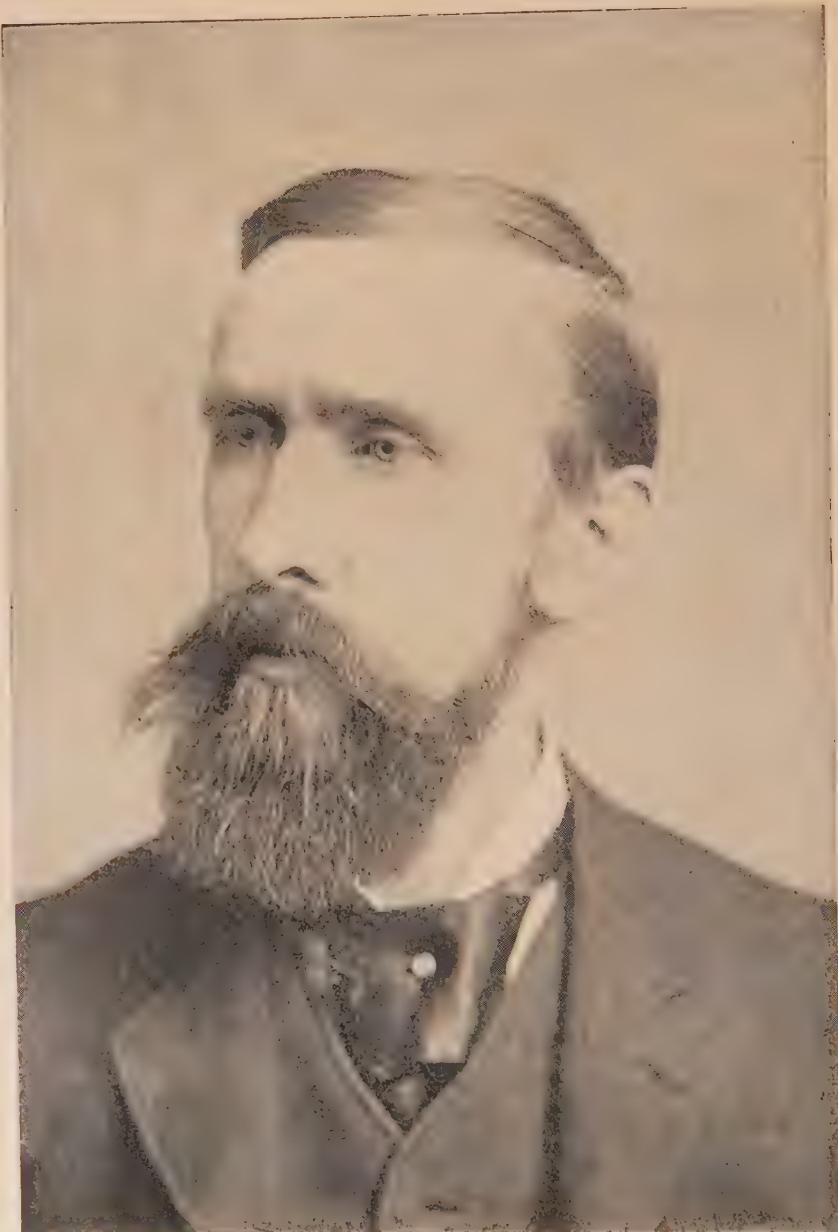
elucidated the principles of legal and constitutional right with the ease of a Parliamentary veteran and the precision of a practised dialectician. He grouped his facts so skilfully, adduced his proofs and authorities with such cumulative force, reared his arguments one upon the foundation of another with such close, quick, inexorable logic, that his conclusions seemed to flash out of their own accord, unforced but irresistible.

Every part of his speech, moreover, was linked to the rest in admirably reasoned sequence, and the oration from beginning to end flowed freely, without hesitation, without a moment's groping for words, and, at the same time, with never one useless sentence, with never one superfluous syllable. No less perfect was the manner of his delivery: the resounding and vibrating voice, the wealth and variety of intonation, the chaste simplicity and appropriateness of gesture and, finally, the attitude of the speaker, as full of natural self-command as it was of personal dignity. Everything contributed to evoke an indescribable enthusiasm. The outburst of applause which greeted the speaker as he resumed his seat continued for fully five minutes afterwards, while the Ministers of the Crown and all the prominent members flocked around him eager to offer their congratulations. It seemed as if everyone realized that a future Chieftain had just proclaimed himself and asserted his right to leadership by the *Ego nominor leo* that had rung through every sentence fallen from his lips. The cause was a lost one, of course, but Laurier had gained the day so far as he, personally, was concerned. From that moment a place in the Cabinet was virtually assigned to him; and he was called upon to fill it as Minister of Inland Revenue in 1877, on the retirement of M. Cauchon, who had been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba.

Then occurred a singular mishap, which furnishes a striking example of the aberrations of the popular mind, as well as the often unaccountable vicissitudes of political life. The new Minister, although he had been returned at the previous election by a majority of more than seven hundred votes over an eloquent and distinguished member of the legal profession, found himself unable to secure his re-election, and was defeated by a worthy and inoffensive village tradesman, who distanced him by a majority of

twenty-one votes. This was one of the repulses to the Mackenzie Government from which it never recovered. Laurier, indeed, returned to the Capital as the chosen representative of Quebec East, but it was in vain. The impulse had been given and the political see-saw had commenced to sway. The young Minister's popularity in the Province at large was powerless to in any way check it. Nevertheless, the crushing defeat which was suffered by the Liberals in the following year did not in the least degree affect Laurier's personal influence, as may be inferred from the fact of his appointment a few years later to the position of Leader of the party for the whole Dominion. This was indeed a distinction which seemed, in earlier years, beyond the dreams of the most sanguine ambition. The fact that in the Dominion, as a whole, the population of British origin outnumbers the French in the proportion of three to one, had always led to the belief that it was impossible for a French-Canadian to attain the leadership of either of the political parties; and this, not so much on account of the prejudices of English members of the House, as because of the natural unwillingness of the masses to follow a chief whose nationality and creed are not those of the majority. For a political party to select such a leader is a hazardous experiment. Not only does it demand the sacrifice of a most important element of success, but it is not unlikely to endanger the party cause itself.

This consideration—generally paramount to all others in political matters—counted for nothing, however, against the future Premier, and in spite of the fact that the Liberal party included a large group of English members of unquestionable ability and *prestige* when Edward Blake was forced, in 1887, by considerations of health, to hand his marshal's baton to a lieutenant, Laurier was finally chosen to take his place at the head of the phalanx without a dissentient voice. And so firmly and ably did the young leader keep his footing on the treacherous ground he had to tread, that the choice of the party was more than justified all through the long and bitter strife which followed until the final victory was achieved. After nine years of Opposition, leadership and struggle, he at last won the day, and in the month of June, 1896, at the general elections, the Liberal party was returned with a majority of thirty, and Wilfrid Laurier was sworn into office



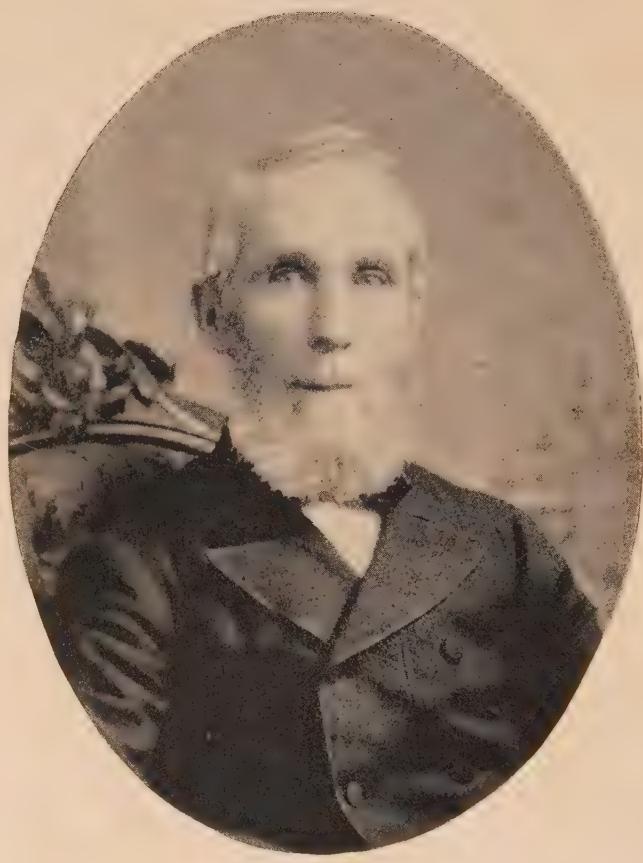
THE HON. GEORGE E. FOSTER

THE RT. HON. SIR J. S. D. THOMPSON, K.C.M.G.



THE HON. SIR JOHN J. C. ABBOTT





THE HON. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE

A Review of Popular Progress

In a country where the traditions of the people have been chiefly those of other and older lands ; where the history, until within a few generations of time, has been one of internal conflict between rival races and foreign flags ; where the modern events of development in a constitutional direction and in material welfare have been controlled by the slowly-merging antagonisms of race and religion ; the growth of liberty and the matured practice of self-government have naturally afforded room for interesting and stirring experiences. Add to these considerations vast and almost unknown areas, immense difficulties of transportation and trade, the competition of a great southern neighbour of not always friendly tendencies, the continued arrival throughout half a century of hundreds of thousands of people with diverse tastes and politics and various degrees of knowledge or ignorance, and the position grows in interest and importance.

With the nineteenth century commenced the constitutional history of Canada. To the British subject and elector of the end of that century it is difficult to clearly comprehend the situation in those olden days. Newspapers were so few as to be of little influence. Books were scarce, valuable, and of a character not calculated to throw light upon existing problems. The people of Lower Canada were wrapped up in the traditions and surroundings of many years before and, under the British flag, were fondly nursing the ideas and ideals of Old France in the days of Louis XIV. ; of New France in the days of Montcalm and the earlier period and glories of Frontenac. The people of the English Provinces were still little more than

isolated pioneer settlers steeped in the shadowed memories of a past struggle for King and institutions and country; embittered against all republican or democratic tendencies; prejudiced, naturally and inevitably, against the Radicals of England who had helped to ruin the Royal cause in the Thirteen Colonies and against the French of Quebec who had been so long the traditional enemies of England and the sincere foes of British supremacy in North America. To them, all new-comers, whether the later Loyalists from the States, or immigrants of subsequent years from the Old Land, were subjects of suspicion as being possibly alien in origin, or indifferent in sentiment to their own sacrifices and their own sacred political beliefs. To the French-Canadians, all immigrants were equally undesirable as being practically certain to possess religious and racial differentiation from themselves.

THE EVOLUTION OF CANADIAN PARTIES

Into this peculiar mass of varied interests and antagonistic feelings came the leaven of a constitutional and Parliamentary system. It did not develop from within. It was not the result of popular evolution or even of popular desire. The French-Canadians accepted it as an external part of their new situation, a political appanage to the Conquest; while the Loyalists of the other Provinces did not really want it and would probably have been quite satisfied for many years to come with able Governors and reasonably efficient local advisers. Still, the latter knew how to use it when received and were more or less familiar with the underlying principles of a Legislature and free government. When, however, increasing population brought varied political sentiments and personalities into conflict with the Loyalists, the inevitable result followed and a dominant class found itself in collision with a dominating people who cared more for the present than the past, more for phantasms of liberty than memories of loyalty, more for a share in the government of the country than for abstract

was really too large for the occasion. They were the only element, outside of a few Seigneurs, who were in any way fitted for administration and justice and the making of impartial laws—as the subsequent adventures of the French Assembly clearly prove.

Moreover, if this class Government of 1800 was a selfish one in some respects it was not any more so than a partisan Government in 1900 would be. If it chose associates from, and filled appointments with, its relatives and friends, the sin was no greater than that of any Canadian Government of a hundred years later. If it fought strenuously and sincerely, in all the Provinces, for British institutions as then understood and for the British connection which it regarded as a child does its mother, who is there in 1900 that can throw stones at it? Faults and floundering there were in the Toryism of 1800, but if we measure it in accordance with its pioneer surroundings and limited resources we must conclude that those results were no more serious in bulk or consequences than are the faults and floundering of the democracy of 1900. And, between the two, lie a hundred years of struggle and evolution, of growing wealth and increased popular intelligence.

CANADIAN POLITICAL LEADERS

The leaders of the century, the rulers of the people, have, however, greatly changed in character and scope of culture as the country has slowly broadened out from Colonies into Provinces, from Provinces into a Dominion, from a Dominion into a British nation. The early leaders of the Canadas such as William Smith, Jonathan Sewell, John Beverley Robinson and Isaac Allen were steeped to the lips in memories of the Thirteen Colonies and the Revolution. Later Tory leaders such as Bishop Strachan, Sir Allan N. McNab, William Henry Draper, Henry Sherwood and William Cayley were equally instinct with the traditions of English public life as found in the pages of history and the knowledge of Canadian adherents. Many of these men were cultured gentlemen in the best English sense

and utterly opposed in principles of management to the English model. The politics of the Dominion are run upon lines about half-way between the antagonistic systems of Great Britain and the United States. The speech, manner and style of its public men are essentially American and the social character of the community more nearly approximates to that type than to any other.

Canadian leaders of the last half of the century have been very different in type from their fellow-leaders at the heart of the Empire. Few of them have even had the culture of old-time gentlemen such as Robinson or Sewell. None of them have shown the varied accomplishments now so common amongst the statesmen of Great Britain where a Salisbury is devoted to science, a Rosebery has written one of the most eloquent little books of the century, a Balfour has won fame as a philosophic writer and a Gladstone has distinguished himself in almost innumerable fields of attainment. Lack of time and the fact of having to make a living when out of office, together with the receipt of small salaries when in office, are the real reasons for this condition of affairs. In England it is an every-day matter for some leading public man to speak at length, and with evident learning, upon questions of literature, art, sociology, philosophy, and the progress, or otherwise, of all the varied elements of a complex civilization. As yet Canada has not approached this level though signs have not been wanting toward the end of the century that the Dominion is slowly growing upwards in culture as in other matters. And, even now, it is greatly superior in the style of its public men to the position of Australasian leaders.

In other respects Canadian leaders differ from those of earlier years. With all their wider outlook and the Imperial position which the Dominion has latterly attained they still remain somewhat narrow in conception while the necessity of conciliating rival races and religions has developed an extreme opportunism. The latter quality has

pact of Confederation and the subsequent amendments of the Mowat Government. In the Maritime Provinces the struggle for supremacy in educational matters by the Church of England resulted in a division of forces and opinion which led to the foundation of Dalhousie University in antagonism to King's College and the creation of Acadia College in opposition to both. The Mount Sackville institution was, in the same way a New Brunswick protest against the original Anglicanism of its University at Fredericton. The conflicts were bitter and eventually went against the Church of England principle, but, instead of resulting in a unified system of secular higher education in each of the Provinces, as should logically have been the case, it has simply caused the multiplication of denominational colleges at the expense of the now secularized older institutions and at the expense, in many cases, of general efficiency and success.

RELIGIOUS HISTORY AND PROGRESS

The religious progress of Canada since pioneer days is a subject of fascinating interest. It has worked in different ways into the very warp and woof of Canadian history and finds a place, through denominational rivalry, in almost every Canadian branch of popular development. In Quebec, the Roman Catholic Church has guided and modified and controlled the institutions of the Province, the habits and customs of the French race, the morals and politics and loyalty of the people. It helped Lord Dorchester to save the country to the Crown in 1776; it supported Great Britain with strenuous efforts in 1812; it modified and checked the revolutionary movement of 1837; it stood by the proposals for Confederation in 1867; it largely backed up the Conservative party in its principles of expansion and protection and railway development up to 1891; it opposed the movement in favour of Commercial Union with the United States. It had a place in the Jesuits Estates question, a pronounced share in the Riel issue, an important part in the New Brunswick School question and a still more vital share in the Manitoba School matter.

Meanwhile, the great Protestant denominations had been expanding in various directions under the most strenuous exertions by their leaders. The Church of England was led in Quebec by such heroes of the missionary field as Bishop Jacob Mountain, Bishop George J. Mountain and Bishop Charles James Stewart and by such religious organizers as Dr. Williams and Dr. Fulford—the latter the first Metropolitan of Canada. In Ontario, the Rev. Dr. John Stuart and the strenuous personality of Bishop Strachan, were prominent. In the Maritime Provinces, Dr. Charles Inglis, the first Colonial Bishop and whose See for a time included all British America, Dr. John Inglis, also Bishop of Nova Scotia, Dr. Hibbert Binney, Bishop of the same Province, and Dr. John Medley, Bishop of Fredericton during forty-seven years, worked steadily in the foundation and development of the Church. So with Bishop Anderson and Archbishop Machray at Fort Garry and Winnipeg, Bishop Horden in the far-away Territories, Bishop Sillitoe in British Columbia and Bishop Bompas in the distant Yukon.

Methodism in Canada boasts pioneer labourers such as William Case, James Richardson, Henry Ryan, John Reynolds, John Davison, Egerton Ryerson, John Carroll, Anson Green, William Black—men of immense energy, deep spiritual enthusiasm and the highest powers of endurance. In later and quieter days the Church—which became one great united body from ocean to ocean in 1883—boasted scholars and orators such as Dr. Mathew Richey, Dr. Enoch Wood, Dr. William Morley Punshon, Dr. George Douglas, Dr. S. D. Rice, Dr. J. A. Williams, Dr. Albert Carman, Dr. W. H. Withrow. Presbyterianism in its *personnel* has hardly had the same pioneer variety of attainment, except in the cases of Dr. James McGregor in Nova Scotia, Dr. John Cook in Quebec and Dr. John Black in the far West. In later days men of great ability or learning such as Dr. Alexander Mathieson, Dr. Robert Burns, Dr. Alexander Topp, Dr. John Jenkins, Dr. William

EXPLANATORY INDEX

GIVING THE NAMES OF **OVER ONE HUNDRED** DISTINGUISHED PERSONS APPEARING IN THIS VOLUME AND ALSO THE LEADING EVENTS IN THE BUILDING OF CANADA . . .

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